



*We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together*

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## **Class Information Letter – Year 4**

Welcome to the new school year. We hope that you will find the following information helpful in outlining the areas of study this term.

### **Behaviour and Rewards**

Our school uses the Hertfordshire Steps approach which supports a therapeutic ethos, early intervention and professional responses to behaviours. We have developed three universal school rules which each class has spent time exploring and these are:

- Be ready
- Be respectful
- Be safe

In year 4 the children can earn merit points with regard to behaviour based on these principles and for effort in respect of their work.

### **Curriculum**

Here is information relating to the Autumn Term curriculum. If you look on the school website, you will see how this fits into the curriculum for the entire Key Stage in our Curriculum Map. This may help you to plan interesting visits that match your child's syllabus. On occasions themes move between terms and as such the Curriculum Map is a flexible overview for the whole year.

### **Religious Education:**

In RE we shall continue to follow the liturgical year. This term, beginning with Ordinary Time, leads up to the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas. Our themes are:

**The Bible:** The children will be learning to find their way around the Old and New Testament by using Bible references. They will understand that the Bible is an account of God's relationship with His people, reflect on how the Bible can help us and to know that God speaks to us in the Bible. In the Old Testament our study will be with particular reference to Abraham, Joseph, Moses and David.

**Trust in God:** In this unit the children will be learning to understand the importance of trusting in God. The children will learn about God's promise to Zechariah and how he put his trust in God. The children will know that Mary trusted in God and will reflect on what we can learn from Mary's example of trust. Through Joseph's experience, the children will be aware that sometimes we need help to trust in God. The unit concludes with God's fulfilment of His promise to Mary when Jesus was born. The children will be reflecting on the importance of the birth of Jesus, learning to understand the reason God sent Jesus to earth and reflecting on who Jesus is for us.

We will be attending a Parish Mass regularly during the term.

Each term you will also receive a termly RE Newsletter which will help you to support your child's learning and faith journey throughout the liturgical year.

**English:** Our areas of focus will be Poetry, Non-fiction and Narrative fiction. Writing skills - sentence structure and punctuation, text organisation and effect on audience, will be taught through the fiction and non-fiction texts.



Non-fiction: The Shang Dynasty (The children will retrieve and collate information about Ancient China to answer the 'Big Question')

Narrative fiction: Christophe's Story (in which dilemma and another culture are explored)

Grammar: Possessive apostrophes, nouns, pronouns, singular and plural agreements, and determiners.

Handwriting: Developing a fluent cursive style and reinforcement of spelling patterns

**Maths:** Our school follows the Hertfordshire for Learning Essential Maths scheme. Our areas of focus will be Place Value, Rounding, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division, Factor Pairs and Integer Scaling, Money, Measures- including Time, Fractions and Decimals, Problem Solving and Reasoning and Handling Data.

**Science:** In Science, our topics will be:

Solids, Liquids and Gases and will include: Classifying solids, liquids and gases, melting and freezing materials, evaporation and condensation and practical investigations.

Sound- How sounds are made, how sound travels and investigations linked to volume, pitch and distance from a sound source.

### **Computing**

Coding: We will be writing and debugging programs to achieve specific goals and working with variables and various forms of inputs and outputs.

Search technologies: We will learn to effectively carry out internet research for specific purposes as well as considering safe practice when using the internet.

**Topic:** Ancient Egypt

The children will know about the main events, dates and characteristics of Ancient Egypt with links to Geography, Art, Design and Technology, Music, English and RE.

### **Physical Education**

Throughout the whole school all PE kits consist of navy shorts and white round necked t-shirt (all KS2 pupils will be expected to also have a navy track suit and trainers). Children will need their PE kit every Monday and Friday (Bonifacio) and every Tuesday and Thursday (Michelangelo), but it is advisable to leave the PE kit in school and only take it home each half term.

### **Home Learning**

Home learning is set on Fridays to be returned no later than the following Wednesday. This will include Maths, and another topic including English, Science or R.E. This is supplemented by regular reading.

Children in KS2 are expected to bring their Reading Books to school each day. They may bring their book, pencil case, snack and homework books in a small bag but please bear in mind the limited space in their personal locker which also stores PE kit and their outdoor wear.

### **General information:**

Our next parent Consultations will be on: **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018: 3.30pm – 7.30pm** and  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018: 3.30pm – 5.30pm.**

**Water Bottle:** All children are encouraged to drink plenty of water during the day, therefore, please supply your child with a refillable sports top water bottle. This must ONLY contain water, NO juices. The children may bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable for a morning snack if they wish.

**Jewellery:** NO jewellery should be worn in school including earrings. Those with pierced ears must remove the earrings during school hours. If you wish your child to have their ears pierced this should take place at the beginning of the summer holidays to ensure the ears are healed before returning in September. Long hair must be tied back during school hours.

**Plimsolls:** All pupils must have a pair of well-fitted plimsolls in school. Please ensure all clothing and personal items are named. Lost property is now in a blue box directly outside our main office area and is accessible at all times.

Thank you in anticipation of your customary support. We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year.

**The Year Four team.**

