



Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break. It is hard to believe that we are heading into the Summer Term already. With Arts and Culture Week and Sports Week on the horizon, it is a busy term for us all.

As the weather warms up and children begin to abandon their layers, especially jumpers, it would help enormously if **all** garments could be named please so that they might be returned to their rightful owner. Thank you in advance for your support in this. As before, here is an outline of the curriculum topics we will be covering this term.

A note about Standard Attainment Tests (SATs)

Please note that SATs for KS1 became optional for schools in 2024. Our end of year assessment is assessed on the judgement of teachers. However, we choose to use the optional SATs to support our judgements and help prepare the children for more formal tests they will encounter as they move into KS2. They are used only for our internal data

The SATs papers will test on Reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling (GAPS) and maths. They provide an insight into the skills and knowledge gained over the core subject areas. In addition, they will allow us to assess where we can help close any gaps in their understanding before they reach Year 3. Because they form only a part of our judgements about your child's attainment, we do not routinely pass on the results of these tests. They are a snapshot at a point in time and do not always reflect accurately the full attainment of your child.

The DfE's Key Stage 1 (KS1) information leaflet, which you have been sent as an attachment to the newsletter at the end of the Spring Term along with a letter outlining the National Testing Programme, is for parents with a child in Year 2 at primary school. The leaflet provides an overview of the purpose of the optional tests, how they work and how participating schools, of which we are one, may use the results.

Should you wish to provide additional support at home, SATs papers are available to download on the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-practice-materials#key-stage-1-past-papers> Continued support, particularly with reading and maths will be extremely valuable not only in the lead up to SATs, but as your child prepares to move into Key Stage 2.

Reading

We cannot stress the importance of daily reading enough. Reading is key to accessing all areas of the curriculum, including maths and science, and the expectation is that your child reads aloud at home to an adult every day, regardless of whether they have read in school. Please do not be concerned if they wish to re-read books. The emphasis is very much on fluency and re-reading a text is an excellent way to improve this as your child becomes more and more familiar with the words. The more fluent the reader, the greater the understanding. The children have a solid understanding of their phonic sounds and are now focusing on spelling rules including using prefixes and suffixes. This is incorporated in the weekly spelling and grammar lessons using our excellent programme Spelling Shed.

The children undertake a weekly guided reading and comprehension task which further develops key reading skills such as inference and sequencing. The development of these skills is fundamental and can only be built upon with questioning. We have provided the children with a 'Reading Dogs' bookmark to help you see the areas of reading comprehension we develop and to suggest questions you might ask to support these.

Homework

As before, homework will be set on a Thursday (or Friday on rare occasions) and sent home in homework folders. This is due in the following Tuesday. The emphasis will be on reading and maths, with some additional SPaG questions incorporated. Expectations for homework are the same as in the classroom, in that it should be completed neatly in pencil.

A weekly spelling list will be set each Thursday via Spelling Shed, made up of spelling patterns we have covered during the week. Spelling Stars, comprising National Curriculum Year 2 vocabulary and high frequency words (HFW), will be given out at the beginning of each term to be learnt for a test during the last week of term. Please encourage your child to practice these spellings. It will benefit them enormously as they continue up through the years. Again, thank you for your support in doing this.

P.E.

As last term, Kingfisher Class will have P.E on Monday and Tuesday with Mr. Whittle. They will also be working with a borough dance coach on Wednesday morning as we prepare for Arts and Culture Week. Please continue to send your child to school in their P.E. kit on these days. This term their PE sessions with Mr. Whittle will focus on athletics.

Please refer to the school website regarding correct P.E. kit, which should also be named.

English

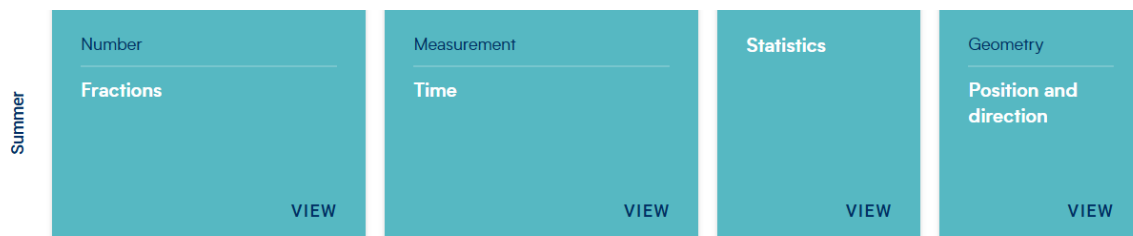
We begin the term by exploring a beautiful text set in Venice, titled 'The Glassmakers Daughter'. We will then move on to the book 'Gregory Cool' by Caroline Finch, which is set in Trinidad and Tobago. We will compare Trinidad and Tobago with the UK as our geography topic this term.

The writing skills covered at this term are as follows:

- Writing sentences using question marks and exclamation marks
- Using a range of connectives, openers and adjectives
- Using varied, appropriate vocabulary
- Using expanded noun phrases
- Similes
- Using an apostrophe for contractions
- Beginning to use paragraphs, headings and sub-headings to add clarity to writing.
- Spelling words with increasing accuracy, including homophones
- Setting description
- Character description
- Using the correct punctuation when writing dialogue.
- Poetry

Maths

This summer term:



Please continue to use and practice times tables on Times Tables Rock Stars. Logins can be found in their reading record.

https://play.ttrockstars.com/?_gl=1*lt1hy5*_ga*MTUwOTY4MzM5My4xNjk5ODIxNjE4*_ga_FYSNH92ZJH*MTcxMzQzMjM0NS4yLjAuMTcxMzQzMjM0NS4wLjAuMA..

The following website is another excellent resource to support a whole range of maths topics:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16>

Science

In Terms 5 and 6, we will be studying plants. To support this topic, we will be growing a variety of plants from seed and observing these over time to see what elements affect their growth and what happens at each stage in the life cycle.

Music

Music is taught throughout the school using the music scheme Kapow. However, owing to Arts & Culture preparation, our music lessons will be inspired and taught using the focus of the week. This includes singing, dancing and performance.

R.E.

Our enquiry question for this term is: 'Can stories change people?' We will be exploring the ways that Old Testament and New Testament stories influence readers and listeners and the reasons for the inclusion of stories.

The final R.E. topic of the year will be 'How should you spend the weekend?'

PSHE

We are now following the Kapow PSHE and RSE curriculum: Citizenship, the local community. Exploring what is a community, how the children contribute to it and the importance of it.

We will then move onto Economic Wellbeing, looking into the value of money and banks, and for example the difference between 'wanting' and 'needing' to buy something.

Computing

Children will be taught that permission should be gained from others before sharing images and information about them online and that they have the right to say 'no.' Finally, they will be made aware that not everything they see or read online is true. This is all part of our safeguarding and online safety programme.

Art & DT

This term, our art sessions will focus on painting with primary and secondary colours. We will be mixing mediums, considering composition and creating different textures in our discovery of colour, giving the children the freedom to express themselves creatively.

When moving onto DT later in the summer, we will focus on food technology and explore a balanced diet. This will result in planning a recipe and making a healthy wrap.

Geography

Our geography topic this term links to our second text in English, where the setting is Trinidad and Tobago. We will be comparing the islands with the UK, exploring both the human and physical features of each nation. We will then recap what we learned about London before making comparisons with the Port of Spain.

We are very much looking forward to the term ahead and hope this overview of the next few weeks is useful. As always, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to make contact either at the end of the day or through email via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona O'Reilly