

Year 4 – Saint Thomas More - Spring Term 2024

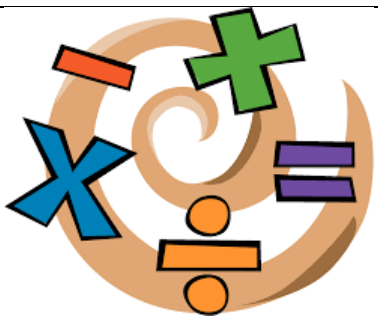
Topic Letter

Dear Parents, welcome back after the Christmas holiday. Although the Spring term is shorter there is lots to do and learn, much of which is outlined below. As always please do contact me via seesaw, purple mash or school email if you have any questions. Thank you. Mr Oliveri.



Literacy

This term will be working on different texts including; *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo, and *African Tales – A Barefoot* collection by Gcina Mhlophe. We will be using these texts to explore different themes in writing and storytelling. We will also use them as the basis for our own writing, producing, recounts, letters, character studies, reports and poetry. We will practise our application of comprehension skills including inference and identify different techniques used by authors in their writing.



Maths

The children will continue to develop their knowledge of multiplication and division, looking at how to use the operations efficiently and how to multiply and divide numbers of increasingly greater values. We will learn about perimeter and length; identifying and using techniques to calculate the perimeter of different shapes. We will look at how whole objects and groups can be split into fractions. We will move on to identifying

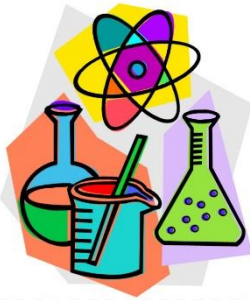
equivalent fractions, and the links between fractions and decimals.

We will also develop our use of the four mathematical operations in problem solving. Identifying strategies that we can use to apply our maths knowledge to real world problems.



R.E.

Our area of focus this term is Jesus the Teacher and the Saviour. We will explore the life of Jesus to identify ways that his actions and words embodied these two different roles. We will reflect on the significance of Jesus' teachings and how they can be applied in our lives today.



Science

In the first half of the term, we will be exploring sound. We will work out what sound is and how we hear, including the structure of the ear. We will perform experiments to demonstrate how sounds are changed, including volume and pitch. In the second half of the term, we will be focusing electricity. We will look at the uses of electricity, the parts of a circuit and have a go at creating our own.



Computing

We will continue to have a termly revision of internet safety. Identifying how technology should be used in a responsible, safe and respectful way. Please do take the opportunity to discuss your child's technology use with them guiding them on how to be safe and establishing expectations for their use of the internet.

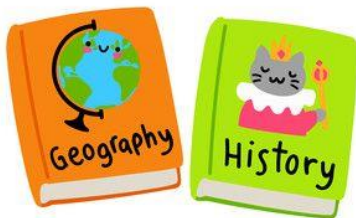
Outside of internet safety we will be learning about spreadsheets, linking our use of information technology to our maths. The children will learn how to input numbers into spreadsheets and how to use calculation functions for things such as totals, to help with budgets. We will also learn about writing for different audiences and using search engines effectively for research and recreation.



P.E.

For outdoor PE this term the children will take part in a range of bat and ball games, including cricket and hockey. For indoor PE the children will be working on dance, inspired by things they have previously learnt about the

Roman Empire. PE lessons are on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Children should wear their PE kit into school on these days.



Geography and History

In History we will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. We will learn where these groups originated from and how they came to settle in Britain. We will learn about their food, homes and ways of life, before exploring the

legacy they have left on modern Britain. In geography we will be learning about the features of a location that make it ideal for people to settle in, thinking about food, water, resources, protection and shelter.



Art and Design Technology

Our art and DT projects are cross curricular, linking to our English, History and Science topics. They will include creating collages of a volcanic eruption inspired by the story *Escape from Pompeii* and creating our own model volcanoes. In the second half of the term, we will be making Tinga Tinga pictures, painting animals and patterns in the style of the artist Edward Tingatinga.



French

We will be learning about farm and zoo animals, before moving on to describing things in a supermarket.



Music

The children will be exploring rhythm and pulse, rounds, lyrics and melody, sound sources, music processes, performing alone and as part of a group.

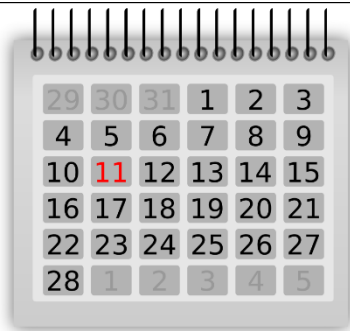


Homework

The children are expected to complete an English or topic-based homework on Purple Mash, spellings/grammar (usually also on Purple Mash) and a maths task (usually My Maths) each week. Homework will be sent out on a Thursday, to be completed by the following Wednesday. The minimum expectation for children in Year 4 is that they are reading at least 5 times per week for sessions of 15 minutes. It is always encouraged that children read beyond this, as it can help with comprehension and writing skills. Discussing your child's reading book with them, asking them to

summarise what they have read, make predictions about what could happen next, to describe characters, recall events or make inferences, will all help to improve their comprehension skills.

Please sign your child's reading diary and make a note of how much time they are reading, as we will continue to run the 'Reader of the Week' award.



Special events

Other faiths week

Book Week

Safer Internet Day

Numbers Day