

Dear Parents & Guardians,

About Homework:

Homework is an important opportunity to consolidate and reinforce classroom learning. Homework is set on Wednesdays to be returned the following Monday at the latest.

Children must also read as often as possible. Please read with your child for at least 10 minutes every day if possible, asking questions about their understanding and enjoyment of the text.

Spelling rules are taught weekly in class. The children will have spelling homework linked to these words which will be sent home on Wednesdays, due the following Monday. Each Wednesday, we will have a spelling test to assess their knowledge of the spelling rule and understanding of the vocabulary.

Big Maths challenges are completed on a weekly basis. The children will take home their marked challenges. Please use this opportunity to celebrate their successes and practice areas for improvement.

P.E - Please ensure your child has their full school P.E kit on a **Wednesday** and a **Thursday** (this half term only).

Thank you for your support.



'Growing Together in Faith & Love'

Curriculum Newsletter



Term: Advent 2026

Class: St. Patrick/St Anthony

Year: Year 5/6



R.E.

This term, your child will be studying the following units:

Creation and Covenant: Children will be learning about the literary forms employed in the Genesis account. By the end of this unit pupils will know that the Church teaches that: the world is in disarray because humans choose to do evil again and again. This is called original sin; in Jesus God restored humanity's relationship with him; baptism is the first sacrament of forgiveness of sins; and belief in God as sustainer and source of the universe.

Prophecy and Promise: Your child will learn about Old Testament passages that show the importance of women in salvation history. Pupils will understand that Mary is the fulfilment of the Old Testament promises and became the "Mother of God" by her "Yes" to God's plan.

That the Magnificat is the song of the Mother of God and the song of the Church. The Church prays the Magnificat each day at Vespers (evening prayer). Pupils will show understanding of the life of individual women today who are responding to God's call in their life, for example, describe and explain the role of women's religious orders in the Church today.

Literacy

This term we will be reading and exploring the novels '*The Tin Forest*' by Helen Ward and Wayne Anderson and '*The Explorers*', by Katherine Rundell.

The children will:-

- Read a wide variety of texts of differing genres; respond to these verbally and in writing with more detail; to learn about different comprehension questions and answers—including overt and inferred meaning.
- Develop descriptive skills using alternative and interesting adjectives, simile and metaphor/personification, alliteration and onomatopoeia
- Complete extended narrative writing, redrafting for accuracy.
- Identify the features of a non-chronological report and learn to use cohesion between sentences to write a report
- Identify common root words and recognise these in common spellings and in new vocabulary.
- Read aloud from passages of text or their own work with growing confidence and fluency.
- Consolidate spelling knowledge by practicing spellings with unstressed vowels, silent letters, doubled letters and so on. To use these in context in weekly dictation.
- Develop and refine grammatical knowledge, including developing self-review techniques to ensure that unnecessary errors are avoided; parts of speech, dialogue punctuation, apostrophe for omission /possession, primary and secondary clauses, subject/object in sentences. Colons and semicolons.

Numeracy

This term in numeracy the children will:-

- Consolidate all times tables knowledge to 12 x 12 with greater speed of recall; to develop mental mathematics techniques for speed and accuracy
- To understand place value and solve problems
- To multiply and divide decimals and whole numbers by 10, 100, 1000
- Revisit written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of larger values
- Learn to identify prime numbers, factors, multiples, primes, squares and roots; to calculate decimal square roots with and without a calculator
- Draw and measure angles, triangles and polygons with great accuracy.
- To use simple algebraic formulae.
- Recognise the properties of different angles, triangles & polygons
- Calculate angles on lines, internal and external angles in polygons, and to identify geometric patterns in bisected parallels
- Calculate area and perimeter in all shapes.
- Revise and expand upon mental maths strategies; to practice mental arithmetic to improve pace and confidence

Foundation Curriculum

Computing - Children will learn more about what networks are, what they do and how they connect devices. They will then explore blogs and their features, including how they can be used to engage an audience effectively and safely.

P.E.: During the first half term the children will be taught netball skills, by a visiting teacher from St Pauls. In addition they will also focus on football and basketball skills. Lessons will take place on Wednesday's and Friday's.

Science: - Pupils will be taught to identify the main parts of the human circulatory system and describe the function of the heart, blood vessels and blood. They will also describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals including humans. Discover Linnaeus' system and identify a range of living things.

Music: - The children will explore time signatures, perform rhythms expressively and organise rhythmic ideas in a structure.

Humanities: - In geography, children will learn about Mapping the World—*How can maps and field-work help us to understand a place? Is there anything they cannot tell us?*

In history, the children will explore the world of the Ancient Greece. We will deepen our understanding about the Greeks civilisation through different activities and researches as well as explore how they influenced our lives today.

Italian: - The children will continue to develop their understanding of written and spoken language, taught by a specialist teacher.

Art: -The children continue to develop skills in using different art styles, exploring effects with a range of tools to create symbolic and expressive drawings. Through this unit the children are encouraged to form their own opinions about art, understand the impact of techniques, and convey messages through their artwork.