



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We really enjoyed our first term before Christmas and the children were able to explore some really exciting topics and engage well with their learning. We are now looking forward to the Lent Term Here are some of the exciting topics we are going to be learning about this term.

In Religious Education, our first topic this term will be Local Church and will be exploring 'Community'. We will explore how experience of community is an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith. We will also consider how the Church's celebrations are community occasions. Our second topic this term will be Eucharist and we will be exploring 'Relating'. We will learn how being thoughtful for life, for people and gifts, is a vital part of our relationships with one another. At the end of this term, we will begin our Lent topic – 'Giving'. We will learn about how life, especially family life, or life in school, is full of opportunities for self-giving and we will explore different ways that we can do this in our own lives.



To begin our English topic this term, our learning will be based on 'The Bluest of Blues' by Fiona Robinson. We continue to follow the CLPE sequences of learning, and this term will include poetry, character/setting descriptions, expressive writing and narrative writing. The children will continue to have spellings to learn each week and will be expected to practise at home to prepare for a test the following week. We will also have spelling and handwriting practise in class. The expectation for children to read with an adult at home for at least 10 minutes a day remains and this should be recorded in their home-school planner. There will also be plenty of opportunity for children to read independently in the classroom.



Over the course of the Lent Term in Maths, we will further consolidate our learning about Number and Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Properties of Shape, Multiplication and Division, Fractions, Position and Direction, Decimals and Measurement (including length, perimeter and area). We will continue to use a range of concrete, pictorial and abstract approaches to explore these topics and develop our fluency and reasoning skills. Our focus on times tables remains a priority in this term, and we continue to encourage use of Times Tables Rockstars as a great online tool that can help your child to practise their multiplication and division facts.





Our Theme topic for the Autumn Term is Misty Mountain, Winding River, which will teach children about the characteristics and features of rivers and mountain ranges around the world, including a detailed exploration of the ecosystems and processes that shape them and the land around them. This topic will also encourage children to develop their wider geography skills.

In Art and Design, the children will be developing their sculpting skills to make a 3D model of a Mountain/River.

The children will continue to use Purple Mash in their computing lessons to develop their ability to write for different audiences, and how to create logos and animations.

Spanish lesson each week, taught by Mrs Neal-Gonzalez, will be on a Friday. This term, children will continue learning their numbers in Spanish, as well as beginning to learn about colours.

Our first unit of work for Music in the Lent Term will be based on 'Stop!' This unit will be focused around one song: Hey You! The children will learn about the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc) and this will include singing, and playing instruments. Our second Music unit this term will be based on 'Lean on Me!' and the children will continue to develop their musical ability and understanding of different styles of music.



This term, the children will continue to go swimming until February half term, where they are working towards reaching 25m or more! They will need to bring their full swimming kit to school with them every Monday and this must include a swimming hat, costume or trunks and a towel. After February half term, the children will move onto PE lessons in school. We will give further information about this in due course.

During our PSHE lessons this term, we will be following 'A Mind to be Kind' which will support children to think about how their thoughts and actions towards others can have a lasting effect. We will focus of helping the children to identify all of the ways that they can be kind towards others.

Our first Science topic this term will explore sound. Children will learn how sound is a type of energy and how sounds are created by vibrations. They will also explore how when sound is louder, the vibrations are bigger. Our second topic will be electricity. The children will explore how lightning and static electricity are examples of electricity occurring naturally, but for us to use electricity to power appliances, we need to make it.



Please continue to remember to check your child's Home-School Planner each day and remind them to bring it into school with them. The children should also continue using Times Tables Rockstars, Purple Mash and IXL to support their learning at home. Please encourage your child to practise their spellings and read their reading book daily.



Thank you for your continued support; I am really looking forward to another term of exciting topics. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the School Office or your child's Home School Link book.

Yours sincerely,

Miss K. Forrestall
Year 4 Class Teacher