



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

## Curriculum Information

Year 4 Spring Term 2020

| <b>Subject</b>  | <b>What are we doing in school?</b>  | <b>How can you help at home?</b>  |
|-----------------|--|---|
| <b>Topic</b>    | <p><b>Music to Our Ears</b></p> <p>This term will be exploring music across the curriculum. In History we are looking at how to music has developed throughout different historical periods by ordering musical periods and composers chronologically. The children will also be researching the history of a particular instrument using a variety of sources and will write their own explanation texts using their research. In Geography, we will be identifying countries of the world on a map as well as plotting places in Europe where instruments were invented. The children will be developing their map skills by drawing maps of London and Paris, which links to our class book. The children will also learn about New Orleans (the home of jazz) and Russia (the home of Tchaikovsky) and compare the climates and living conditions. In Art and DT, the children will be creating artwork of a piano using various media. They will also be creating watercolour bleeds on old music manuscript paper. To link with our class book, the children will be designing, making and evaluating tshirts with batik print and dog burglar alarms!</p> | <p>Encourage your child to listen to various genres of music and describe them.</p> <p>Use the Internet to find out about composers and musicians.</p>        |
| <b>Numeracy</b> | <p>Firstly this term, we will complete our unit on multiplication and division. We will then be moving onto fractions, particularly working on finding</p>   | <p>Please help your child/children by practicing the written methods that the children have learned in school to ensure they are confident in using them.</p> |



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School



fractions of amounts. Then, we will move on to revising how to tell the time in both digital and analogue formats. Next, we will be looking at decimals which will link well to our final topic of the Spring term which is money.

We will continue to follow the Practise, Apply and Enrich format in our lessons so that we can improve our reasoning skills and become more confident in solving word problems.

There will be a weekly times tables grid. Please remember that all children in Year 4 need to know all of their times tables up to 12x by the end of this academic year.

It would be useful if the children have the opportunity to use cash when you are shopping as we will be covering money. Ask your child how much money they will need to pay for the items you are buying and how much change they expect you to receive. When you are cooking, are they able to work out how much of the ingredients you would need if you were making double, a half or a quarter of the quantity?

Topmarks is a brilliant website that the children can use to practise all different aspects of maths.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

There are lots of ideas of simple Maths games to aid children's fluency on Pinterest, for example addition and multiplication snap. These, along with traditional board games, will improve the children's speed and accuracy.

Ask your child to practise their number rolls, which we will be learning in class. Each child has their own log in for Times Tables Rockstars which is a fantastic resource that the children really enjoy using. This will help them become fluent when answering questions relating to their tables.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/physical\\_processes/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/physical_processes/)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/materials/>

## Science

Our first topic this term is 'sound'. We will be looking at how sound is made as well as investigating how volume and pitch can be changed. The children will also explore instruments to consider how sound is made on them. They will also investigate how sound can be reduced and evaluate their findings.



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School



After February half-term, we will be studying electricity. The children will find out about the invention of electricity and identify common appliances which run on electricity. They will then create simple circuits and draw annotated diagrams before exploring. The children will also need to understand how a circuit can be opened or closed. Finally, they will investigate common conductors.

## Reading



We love reading! Children read in class every day. They read in a variety of ways including whole class, small group and individual reading.

The children participate in regular VIPERS lessons, where a rich text is selected and the children focus on the skills of Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summarising; they also practise their speed reading in this rotation. In addition to this, the children also have one lesson a week dedicated to Comprehension skills.

The school has recently invested in a huge number of new reading books as part of the Accelerated Reader scheme, which will accurately inform teachers of each child's progress in reading.

We hope you will support us in listening to your child read at home a minimum of three times a week. They should bring their reading book to school every day. Once they have completed their reading book, they will have the opportunity to take the AR quiz which will assess their understanding of the text. On occasion, we may ask your child to re-read the book to improve their understanding of the story.

Remember that children can read other texts to support their learning, e.g. newspapers, magazines, comics, however it is vitally important that they discuss what they are reading with an adult to ensure that they have understood what they have read.

Some questions you can ask are as follows: Can your child find synonyms for specific words in the text? Can they explain the characters' feelings and give reasons for their thoughts? What do they think might happen next? Can they find evidence from the text that supports their thinking? In one sentence/25 words etc can they give you a brief



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Literacy</b></p>   | <p>In the first half of this term, we will be looking at story settings, then moving on to writing play scripts. Our writing this term will be based on our class book, 101 Dalmatians by Dodie Smith. After half term, we will look at the genre of poetry and link it to song writing. Finally, we will look at persuasion and think about writing letters to persuade Cruella De Vil to go fur free!</p> <p>As with their Maths, the children will have a daily SPAG starter which will consolidate the skills they have been learning and will support them with applying the skills to their independent writing. They will also have a weekly spelling test on Friday.</p> | <p>summary of what they have just read? How quickly can they read a passage of 100 words accurately?</p> <p><a href="http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar">http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/</a><br/>To revise their knowledge of skills linked to reading, writing, grammar and spelling.</p>  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spelling</b></p>  | <p>Children have spellings to learn weekly, which are sent home every Friday. They are tested on these the following week.</p>   | <p>There are different ways to help remember spellings. Try looking at the word first of all, sounding out the letters and then covering up the word before your child writes it down.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memory recall of all the spellings given.</li> <li>Finding other words with the same pattern.</li> <li>Finding the longest word with this pattern.</li> <li>Drawing the letters and decorating them.</li> <li>Making up rhymes using each word, for example TEAM = Together Every Ant Munches.</li> </ul> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>RE</b></p>  | <p>Our first topic is Community. We will be looking how a parish needs a strong community to function. A member of the local clergy will be visiting us to talk about what life is like as a Parish</p>  | <p>Discuss with your child about how you create a family community. Encourage your child to think about the different roles there are at Sunday Mass and even see if your child can ask your Parish Priest some questions!</p>  |



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School



Priest.

Next, our topic is giving and receiving. The children will be reflecting on whether it is better to give than receive.

Self-discipline is our Lenten theme. The children will be thinking about how they have to be disciplined in their prayer, fasting and almsgiving over Lent in preparation for Easter.

Reflect on how your child can make a Lenten promise which will help them to grow closer to God..

## PE



We will be going swimming as part of our Physical education until February half term, aiming to reach 25m or more! Just a reminder that every Monday children to need their swimming costumes, a hat and a towel. Long hair must be tied up and all earrings must be removed.

After February half term, we will be doing dance and gymnastics. Your child will need their indoor PE kit for this. The same rules for hair and earrings apply.

Please remove earrings, jewellery and watches at home on PE day. Children are required to remove their own earrings because teachers are not authorised to remove them. Please name your child's swimming kit.

## Homework



The children will bring home Learning Conversations each week based on what we have been doing in class. We would be grateful if you would discuss these with your children each weekend. On occasion, there will be a written outcome for this which they will need to bring into school, but this will be stated on the sheet. The children are expected to read at least three times a week. They will also be expected to practise their spellings and times tables at home.



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

