



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Torside Lent I Newsletter

Welcome back and I hope you have had a wonderful Christmas break? We are looking forward to a fun half term.

Here's an overview of what we will be learning about in Torside this half term.

English

This half term we will be reading the class texts Traction Man and The Day the Crayons Quit. Using the texts to inspire our writing, we will be focusing on:



Narrative writing: Writing a new adventure story for Traction Man.

Poetry: Writing a list poem for what could be found in Father Christmas' pocket.

Persuasive letter: The children will be using their best persuasive techniques to persuade our classroom chairs to come back after being mistreated!

Non-chronological report: writing instructions to explain how to look after a scrubbing brush dog.

Guided reading

We will continue to read a variety of texts in our Guided reading groups. These sessions focus on applying our phonic knowledge to segment and blend unfamiliar words, using intonation and expression when reading aloud (Prosody) and developing our comprehension skills to draw out the children's understanding of vocabulary, character's actions, behaviours and feelings and authorial intent.

Maths

Using White Rose Maths, we will be focusing on:

Money

- Count money in pence and pounds
- Making the same amount
- Compare amounts of money
- Finding change
- Two– step problems

Multiplication and Division

- Recognise, make and add equal groups
- Introduce the multiplication symbol
- Use arrays
- Make equal groups– grouping and sharing
- The 2, 5 and 10 times tables
- Divide by 2, 5 and 10
- Odd and even numbers

RE

Books

Children will learn about different books that are used during Mass, and will learn and retell some of the stories from the Bible including from the four Gospels.

Thanksgiving

We will begin this topic by retelling the story of The Last Supper. Children will then be able to recognise and describe the four parts of the Mass, including some of the responses said during Mass.





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Science

Using our Traction Man story, the children will investigate our topic question

“What would Traction Man use to build our school?”

To answer this they will know how materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching, and know why a material might or might not be used for a specific job

Design and Technology

Torside will look at existing designs for Superhero clothes and what makes a good design. The children will then design their own outfit for Traction Man before using sewing techniques to make their design from felt. We will then be evaluating the finished products with a special showcase of their amazing work.

How can you help?

- I will continue to send out homework on Monday to be completed and returned to school the following Monday. This work relates to work that the children will be completing in class that week so is great practise for them, and also nice for you to see what they are learning about.
- Each Friday there will be new spellings sent home for the children to practise. These spellings relate to phonic work the children complete in class, however they will definitely benefit from the extra practise at home.. Use Spelling Shed for a range of games that practise the week's spellings.
- Reading at home five times a week is a great way to improve your child's confidence and reading skills. Their reading books are sent home after we have read them in school so they will already be familiar with them. School library books are also sent home regularly and can be changed when your child asks. These books are for sharing together. Please ensure reading diaries are signed every time your child reads their reading book, shares their library book or practises their spellings.

Thank you for everything you do to support your child at home. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Mrs Barry