



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Valehouse Lent 2 Newsletter

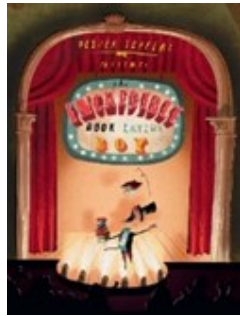
Here is an overview of what we will be learning about in Valehouse this half term.

English

During this half term, we will be exploring the following genres and texts -

Character Descriptions

After reading the story of *The Incredible Book-Eating Boy* by Oliver Jeffers, the children will write a description of the main character Henry that captures his eccentricities using expanded noun phrases and figurative language to engage the reader.



Persuasive Writing

Valehouse will write a persuasive letter to give to Henry about how important it is to eat healthily using their knowledge from their Science topic to support this. They will explore the use of emotive language as well as using conjunctions and adverbs to express cause and effect.

Newspaper Report

We will finish the half-term by creating a newspaper account about the day all the books were eaten in the library! They will discuss how a newspaper is different from a narrative before applying skills such as the use of direct speech.

Maths

Using White Rose Maths, we will be covering the following areas of learning;

Year 3

Length and Perimeter

- Measure in metres, centimetres and millimetres
- Equivalent lengths (m and cm, cm and mm)
- Comparing lengths
- Adding and subtracting lengths
- Measuring and calculating perimeter

Fractions

- Understand the denominators of unit fractions
- Compare and order unit fractions
- Understand the numerators of non-unit fractions
- Understand the whole
- Compare and order non-unit fractions
- Fractions and scales
- Equivalent fractions on a number line
- Equivalent fractions as bar models

Year 4

Length and Perimeter

- Measure in km and m, finding equivalent lengths
- Perimeters of a rectangle and rectilinear shapes
- Perimeters of polygons

Fractions

- Understand the whole and count beyond 1
- Partition a mixed number
- Number lines with mixed numbers
- Compare and order mixed numbers
- Understand improper fractions
- Convert mixed numbers to improper fractions
- Convert improper fractions to mixed number
- Equivalent fractions on a number line

RE

Giving and Receiving

We will continue looking at the big question of "What's more important - giving or receiving?" As we celebrate the Eucharist, Jesus gives himself to us in Word and Sacrament. We will learn how we are called to follow the example of Jesus by giving ourselves to others in the world, and sent out to continue Jesus' work during the Concluding Rite.



Self-discipline

Lent is a part of the Liturgical Year when people unite themselves with Jesus in order to grow in self-discipline through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We will consider 'Is self-discipline important in life?' in preparation for the feast of Easter.



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Science

Animals Including Humans

What happens to the food we eat?

During this topic, the children will:

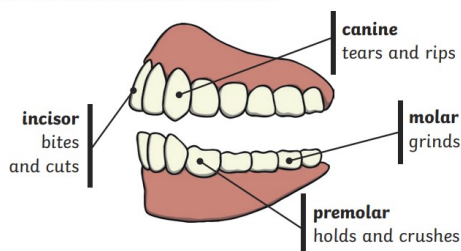
Scientific Knowledge

- Name the different types of teeth found in humans. They can explain their function.
- Explain what tooth decay is and how to look after our teeth.
- Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans.
- Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

Working Scientifically

- Set up and carry out simple comparative and fair tests. They can observe changes over time.
- Draw simple conclusions from their results and suggest improvements to investigations. They can record findings using drawings and keys.
- Use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.
- Gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions.
- Identify similarities, differences, patterns and changes relating to simple scientific ideas and processes.

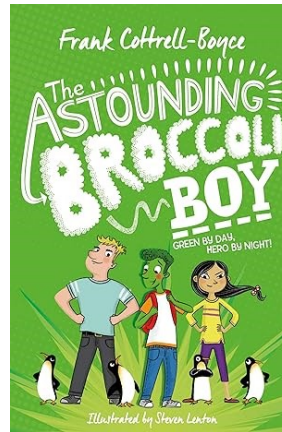
Human Teeth and Their Functions



Some people have wisdom teeth but they have no function now.

Guided Reading

In our Guided Reading sessions we will be reading *The Astounding Broccoli Boy* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce.



The Astounding Broccoli Boy is the hilarious tale of an unlikely (and very green) hero believing in himself and finding adventure.

Rory Rooney likes to be prepared for all eventualities.

But Rory isn't prepared when he suddenly and inexplicably turns green. What if turning green actually means you've turned into a superhero? He can't wait to discover exactly what his superpower might be . . .

We will be using the Reading Vipers techniques of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explain, retrieve and summarise to engage and understand the text in depth.

How can you help?

This half term, the children in Valehouse will have **Swimming** on a **Friday** and **Forest School** sessions on a **Thursday** afternoons.

Your child should be reading every night, please ensure that they are doing this and to write in their reading diary when they have done so.

Homework is set on a Monday and is due the following Monday.

Spellings are tested on a Friday, and a new list is given out on Fridays. Spellings can be accessed on Spelling Shed and the children's logins are in their reading diary.

Spelling Shed/Maths Shed - please ensure your child is accessing these regularly at home. It will help to embed their spellings and improve fluency particularly with times tables.