



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Valehouse Advent I Newsletter

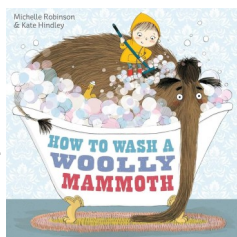
A big welcome to our new Valehouse class! I hope you've had a restful summer and are ready to jump into the prehistoric learning of the Stone Age.

English

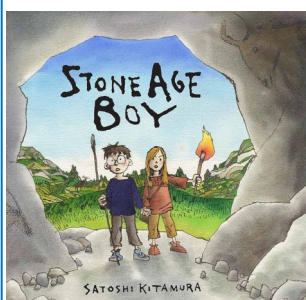
During this half term, we will be exploring the following genres and texts

Instructional Texts

Using 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' as our inspiration, the children in Valehouse will learn the key features of instructional texts to create their own how-to guide on how to Bath a Bison.



Descriptive Writing



We will journey back in time with the Stone Age boy, exploring descriptive language to create diary entries and descriptions of settings.



Autumn Poetry

Using our senses we will create cinquain poems with an autumnal theme.

Maths

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

Place value

- Represent numbers to 100
- Partition numbers to 100
- Number line to 100
- Hundreds
- Represent numbers to 1,000
- Partition numbers to 1,000
- Flexible partitioning of numbers to 1,000
- Hundreds, tens and ones
- Find 1, 10 or 100 more or less
- Number line to 1,000
- Estimate on a number line to 1,000
- Compare numbers to 1,000
- Order numbers to 1,000
- Count in 50s

Addition and Subtraction

- Apply number bonds within 10
- Add and subtract 1s
- Add and subtract 10s
- Add and subtract 100s
- Spot the pattern
- Add 1s across a 10
- Add 10s across a 100
- Subtract 1s across a 10

RE

Catholic Social Teaching:

Dignity of the Human Person

This half term we will be exploring the theme of the dignity of the human person and how we believe every human person is made in the image and likeness of God. This is a gift that we all share as fellow human beings; we are all infinitely loved by our Creator.



Creation to Covenant

This year we are moving to the new RE Curriculum 'To Know You More Clearly' and this is comprised of six branches throughout the year. This half term the branch is 'Creation and Covenant'. In the first branch the story of Creation, humanity, made in the image and likeness of God, is given the task of caring for the Earth, stewardship. At Mass, Catholics give thanks for the fruits of the Earth at the Offertory.





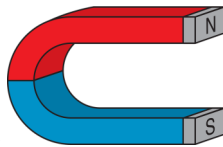
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Science

Valehouse will be exploring Forces and Magnets this half term. During this topic, the children will

- Compare how things move on different surfaces
- Know that forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance
- Know that magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others
- Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials
- Know that magnets have two poles
- Predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing



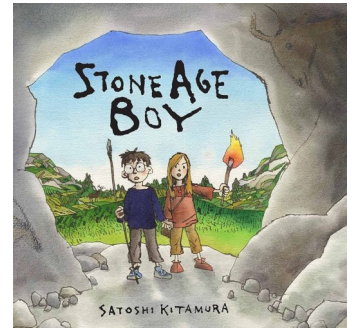
Guided Reading

Stone Age Boy

One day a little boy is walking along when he trips, stumbles and falls ... into the Stone Age!

He meets a girl his own age and her tribe, and learns all about their way of life. He watches them make tools, clothes and weapons. He sees how they hunt, fish, cook, celebrate – and even how they paint on the walls of caves.

But when a furious cave bear attacks, he wakes up back in his own time where everyone tells him it was only a dream. But was it?



How can you help?

Please ensure your child brings a **healthy snack** and a **bottle of water** every day. Unfortunately the Government free fruit scheme is only open to infant children and we cannot depend on there being any left over.

Tuck shop is open on Fridays, with a selection of treats for 50p. Alternatively your child may bring in a cereal bar or crisps as their Friday treat.

This half term, the children in Valehouse will have Forest School on **Thursdays**, so will need to bring their outdoor kit, and they will have swimming on **Tuesdays**. Please ensure they come to school wearing their swim suit under their PE kit to help with start time for the lesson.

Reading Diaries and reading books need to be brought into school every day, and we ask that care is taken that they are kept in a good, clean condition ready for another pupil to use. Please read with your child daily and sign their diary.

Homework is set on a Monday and is due the following Monday. Please ensure work is completed neatly and stuck in.

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.

History

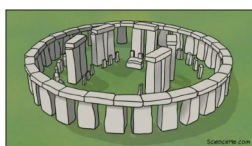
This half term we're exploring the question



Who first lived in Britain?

The children will -

- Know how Britain changed between the beginning of the stone age and the iron age
- Know the significance of sites like Stonehenge and Skara Brae
- Know the main differences between the stone, bronze and iron ages
- Know what is meant by "settlements"
- Know what is meant by 'hunter-gatherers'



The Stonehenge monument was built in 2500 BCE