



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

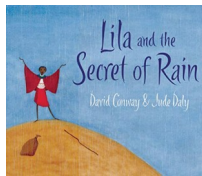
Torside Advent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back, I hope you have had a restful half term break! We are looking forward to a busy half term and the lead up into our Christmas celebrations including our Christmas performance with Kinder class.

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 text *Lila and the Secret of Rain*, a beautiful book set in Kenya.



Using the text to inspire our writing, we will be focusing on:

Narrative writing: retelling the story using time adverbs to show the chronology of events, expanded noun phrases to add description and different sentence types for effect.

Diary writing to write in first person, and apply the skills learnt in the story retell.

Non-chronological report: writing an information text about rhinos by organising information into subheadings, and choosing effective vocabulary to add details and interest to the reader.

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:

- Addition and subtraction
 - 10 more and 10 less
 - Add and subtract two-2 digit numbers not across a 10
 - Add and subtract two 2-digit numbers across a 10.
 - Mixed addition and subtraction
 - Missing number problems
- Shape
 - Recognising 2D and 3D shapes
 - Counting sides and vertices on 2D shapes
 - Counting faces and edges on 3D shapes
 - Making patterns with shapes.

RE

Prophecy and Promise

This half term we will learn about the prophets Isaiah and John the Baptist. We will learn about Mary the mother of God who prays for them and with them, and the story of the birth of John the Baptist.

We will then learn some of the ways Christians prepare for Christmas including celebrations such as Las Posadas, and lighting the Advent Wreath before retelling the birth of Jesus.





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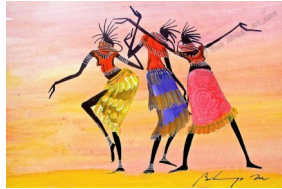
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Geography

Using our Lila and the Secret of Rain text, we will be using atlases and globes, and a bit of African fruit tasting to learn about Kenya and geographical similarities and differences so that children can answer our topic question

"Would you rather live in Kenya or the UK?"

We will look at the work of Martin Bulinya and use his colours and patterns as inspiration for our own African art work.



We will also recall our work from Year 1, and secure our knowledge of the four countries and capital cities of the UK and the surrounding seas,

Science

We will be continuing to learn the important skills needed to be a scientist. Children will be developing their vocabulary, observation and explanation skills through our seasonal work on Bonfire night, autumn and hibernation.



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