



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Valehouse Advent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back, I hope you have had a restful half term break! Here's an overview of what we will be learning about in Valehouse this half term.

English

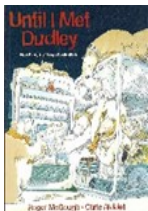
During this half term, we will be exploring the following genres and texts

Bonfire and Remembrance Poetry

We will explore our senses with poetry about Bonfire Night, and look at Flanders Field by John McCrae to inspire our own poems for Remembrance Day



Explanation texts



Have you ever wondered how a toaster works? Or a fridge-freezer, or a washing-up machine? In this fun-filled book of how things work, Dudley, the techno-wizard dog, provides the answers. The children will then explore together how to create a 'Teacher

Pleaser' machine before creating their own explanation texts.

Persuasive Writing

After listening to the story of 'The Day the Crayons Quit', the Christmas Tree decorations are inspired to revolt and demand better conditions to live and work. They're tired of being moved around, having tinsel round their ears and being batted off the tree by the cat. How can we convince them to come back?



Maths

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

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

Multiplication and Division

- Multiplication - equal groups
- Use arrays
- Multiples of 2
- Multiples of 5 and 10
- Sharing and grouping
- Multiply and divide by 3
- The 3 times-table
- Multiply and divide by 4
- The 4 times-table
- Multiply and divide by 8
- The 8 times-table
- The 2, 4 and 8 times-tables

RE

Catholic Social Teaching: Family and Community



This half term we will be exploring the theme of Family and Community and how we recognise that as people we are social beings, communicating and relating to one another. We are made for community and communion with one another, living and sharing our daily lives, hopes and dreams.

To Know You More Clearly: Prophecy and Promise

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 'Prophecy and Promise. We will be exploring the role of Mass and how it is celebrated, and how Christians can prepare for the coming of Christ during Advent.





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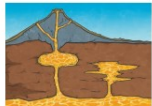
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Science

Valehouse will be exploring 'What do rocks tell us about the way the Earth was formed?' this half term.

During this topic, the children will

- Compare and group together different kinds of rocks based on their appearance and simple physical properties
- Know how fossils are formed
- Know soils are made from rocks and organic matter
- Know about and explain the difference between sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous rock.



igneous



sedimentary

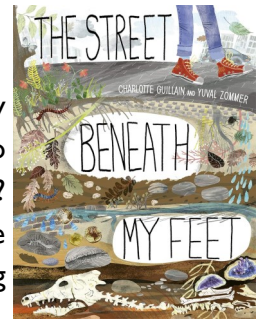


metamorphic

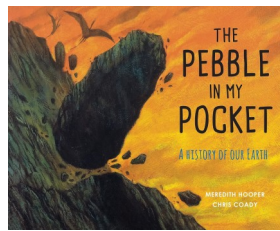
Guided Reading

The Street Beneath My Feet

When you're out walking around, whether on the city streets or a country trail, there's always so much to see and hear. But do you ever stop and look down? Have you ever wondered what's going on deep in the ground under your feet? There are so many amazing sights to see!



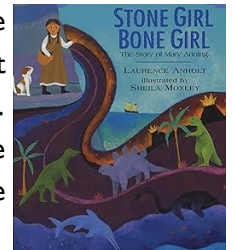
The Pebble in my Pocket



Where do pebbles come from? How were they made? This book tells the story of a pebble, from its origins in a fiery volcano 480 million years ago to a busy, modern landscape. We will follow the processes of rock formation and erosion that create new pebbles all over the world.

Stone Girl Bone Girl

As a baby, Mary was struck by lightning, then as a little girl she found a fossilised sea monster, the most important prehistoric discovery of its time. This spectacular tale of a little girl who dared to be different and who followed her dreams will inspire young children.



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 continue to 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. To avoid any lost property, please remove earrings **before** coming to school on swim day.

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.