



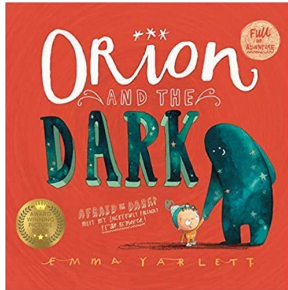
Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Valehouse Pentecost I Newsletter

Welcome back Valehouse! I hope you have had a wonderful Easter break.

English

Orion and the Dark by Emma Yarlett



This half term we will be using the wonderful text of Orion and the Dark to create different writing genres.

Using drama and roleplay, the children will discuss different fears that children may have and create speeches for Orion to help him stand up for himself.

The children will create dialogue between Orion and the Dark, looking at how this can move a story on.

Finally, the children will create a narrative description of an adventure as they fly around the world together to see all the amazing scenes in the dark.

Maths

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

Fractions

- Fractions and scales,
- Count and find equivalent fractions on a number line
- Find equivalent fractions as bar models
- Add and subtract fractions
- Fractions of an amount

Mass and Capacity

- Use scales and measure mass in grams and kilograms
- Find equivalent masses (kilograms and grams)
- Add, subtract and compare mass
- Measure capacity and volume in litres and millilitres
- Find equivalent capacities and volumes
- Add, subtract and compare capacity and volume

Money

- Pounds and pence
- Convert pounds and pence
- Add money
- Subtract money
- Find change

RE

Catholic Social Teaching:

Options for the Poor and Vulnerable

This half term we will be exploring the theme of Preferential Option for the Poor. Society is judged on how it cares for and stands with the poor and vulnerable- our brothers and sisters. The Church calls us to respond to the cry of the poor and put their needs first. This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable must be seen in action in our daily lives and government policies.



To Know You More Clearly:

To the Ends of the Earth

In this branch of 'To Know You More Clearly', pupils will look at how Mass today mirrors Mass celebrated by the first disciples.

They will learn about the first historical account from St Paul's letter to the Corinthians which was written within a few years after Jesus' death and resurrection.





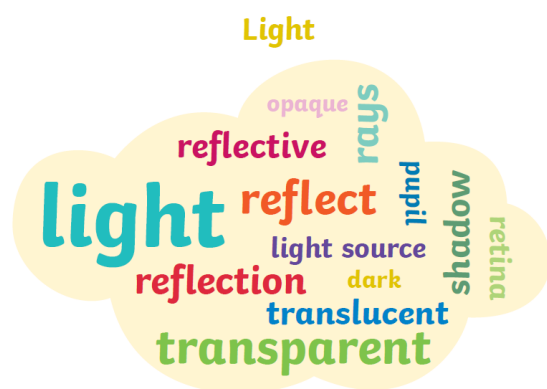
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Science

Valehouse will be exploring the big question 'Light and Dark - How far can I throw my shadow?' this half term. During this topic, the children will;

- Know that they need light in order to see things.
- Know that dark is the absence of light.
- Know that light is reflected from surfaces
- Know that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes
- Know that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object
- Know how that the size and shape of shadows change



Guided Reading

Sam Wu is not afraid of the Dark by Katie and Kevin Tsang

Sam Wu is NOT afraid of anything. Except for quite a lot of things. Like ghosts. Sharks too. And also THE DARK! And so when Sam goes camping in the woods with his friends and cousin Stanley, who knows what scary kind of things they'll face ...?



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 PE on **Thursdays**, so will need to come into school wearing their PE 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.