



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Ladybower Advent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back Ladybower! We've got a busy term ahead, so let's see what we'll be learning.

English

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

Persuasive Writing

As a class, we will be looking at clips from the film, *The Greatest Showman* and then using that to produce a piece of persuasive writing in the role of P.T Barnum to encourage people to visit and watch the show.



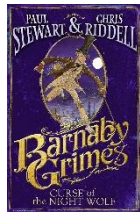
Setting description

We will then move on to writing a setting description based on the short film, 'Little Freak.' We will focus on the dialogue between the little boy and his father, and Year 6 will be introduced to the term 'pathetic fallacy' to compare the atmosphere of the video and how it reflects the 'little freak's' feelings and emotions.



Third person narrative

Our final piece of work will be based on the opening chapter of the book, 'Barnaby Rime: Curse of the Night Wolf', and other extracts to help us write our own description of a transformation.



RE

Prophecy and Promise

Show an understanding of scripture passages that speak of David's life.

Show an understanding of some gospel passages that present Jesus as the fulfilment of the promise to David

Use specialist vocabulary to describe and explain the nature of David's kingship in the Old Testament, with reference to the passages that speak of David's kingship and Psalm 21:1-7.

Recognise that David is a model of prayer.

Know that the Rosary is a prayerful reflection on the life of Christ and explain what the joyful mysteries remember.

Wonder about the imagery of shepherds used in the scripture passages studied and explore how it helps us understand servant leadership.

Exploring artistic representations of the O Antiphons, describe what they represent, and say which they prefer, giving reasons for their choice.

Considering how their own lives could be transformed by offering their own lives in service to others, as part of their preparation during Advent.



Maths

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

Year 5

Multiplication and division

- Factors and common factors
- Prime, square and cube numbers
- Multiply and divide by 10, 100, 1,000
- Multiples of 10, 100 and 1,000

Fractions

- Find equivalent fractions to a unit/non-unit fraction
- Convert improper fractions to mixed numbers
- Convert mixed numbers to improper fractions
- Compare and order fractions less than 1
- Compare and order fractions greater than 1
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator
- Add fractions within and greater than 1
- Add two mixed numbers
- Subtract fractions
- Subtract from a mixed number
- Subtract two mixed numbers

Year 6

Fractions

- Equivalent fractions and simplifying
- Compare and order fractions
- Add and subtract any two fractions
- Add and subtract mixed numbers
- Multi-step problems
- Multiply fractions by integers
- Multiply fractions by fractions
- Divide a fraction by an integer
- Mixed questions with fractions
- Fraction of an amount
- Fraction of an amount – find the whole

Converting Units

- Metric measures
- Convert metric measures
- Calculate with metric measures
- Miles and kilometres
- Imperial measures



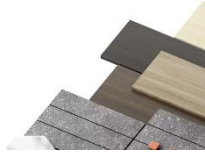
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Science

Materials: Properties and changes

- Determine the hardness of materials
- Determine the transparency of different materials
- Determine the conductivity of different materials
- Demonstrate reversible changes
- Demonstrate irreversible changes



Energy: Light and reflection

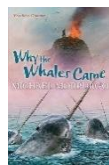
- Describe the pathway of light
- Describe how we see and to draw scientific diagrams
- Explain how shadows change
- Investigate what affects the angle of the reflected ray
- Record results as a line graph
- Explain how a periscope works
- Explain how mirrors are helpful



Our lovely Year 5 pupils in Ladybower have the pleasure of Mrs Barry teaching them their Science topic this half term, so have a look at Derwent's newsletter to see the exciting things they'll be getting up to!

Guided Reading

This half term we will be reading the book *Why the Whales Came* by Michael Morpurgo.



Two children, Gracie and Daniel, live on a remote island in the Isles of Scilly during World War I. They befriend the mysterious and feared "Birdman," a deaf and solitary man who lives on the neighbouring island of Samson and learn about his connection to a past curse. Through their friendship, they uncover a secret involving a narwhal's horn and learn about acceptance, courage, and the power of community.

We will teach it through the techniques of DERIC (Decoding, Explaining, Retrieving, Inferred/Interpreting and Choice). Children will read both to themselves and aloud to the class to focus on fluency and understanding of the text.

History

Ancient Maya

The children will be able to:

- Understand the Maya number system and how it works
- Explain what the Mayan writing system consists of, how words are constructed and what codices are
- Describe a range of foods that were eaten by the ancient Maya and why certain foods were significant
- Investigate the Maya social structure and daily life
- Understand the Maya religious beliefs and rituals
- Evaluate the decline of the Maya civilisation



How can you help?

This half term, the children in Ladybower will have **OTIS** on a **Thursday** so will need to come into school in their PE kit.

They will also be going **swimming** on a Tuesday and this will carry until we finish for Christmas. Please ensure they come to school wearing their swimsuit 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. 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 and TT Rockstars - please ensure your child is accessing these regularly at home. It will help to embed their spellings and improve fluency particularly with times tables.