



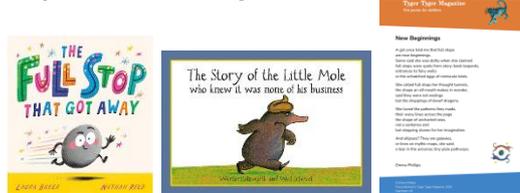
Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Derwent Lent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back Derwent! What a busy and fun half term we have to look forward to in the lead up to Easter.

English

This half term we will be reading three texts to inspire our writing with a focus on punctuation.



Narrative writing

Children will explore the different uses for a comma and create a new character named Colin the Comma. They will write a narrative story about Colin and peer review to improve.

Children will use commas for fronted adverbials and use correct punctuation to write speech for the mole and other animals he meets.

Non-fiction writing

Children will write a non-chronological report on different punctuation marks and their purpose.

Poetry

Children will create a character profile for their own punctuation mark and write and perform a poem about that character.

Guided reading

This half term the children will be continuing the class text Kensuke's Kingdom. In each session, the children will be looking at the Definition of words, Explaining, Retrieving, Interpreting and making a Choice using the text.

Maths

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

Year 4:

- Fractions

Partition a mixed number

Compare and order mixed numbers

Understand improper fractions

Convert mixed numbers to improper fractions

Equivalent fractions

Add and subtract two or more fractions

- Decimals

Tenths as fractions

Tenths as decimals

Tenths on a number line

Year 5:

- Decimals and percentages

Decimals up to 2 decimal places

Equivalent fractions and decimals

Thousands as fractions

Thousands as decimals

Order and compare decimals

Round to 1 decimal places

Understand percentages

- Perimeter and area

Perimeter of rectilinear shapes

Perimeter of polygons

Area of rectangles

Area of compound shapes

RE

Desert to garden

Derwent will begin the unit by revisiting The Prodigal Son parable before learning about the Judgement of Nations parable and making links between the two.

They will continue to make links using the seven corporal works of mercy and how we can live these out in support of those in need.

We prepare for Holy Week by sequencing the events of Holy Week, including the story of St. Peter.

The children will learn about the life and work of St Damien of Molokai and Ruth Pfau who showed the works of mercy in their lives., then reflect on what they need to change about themselves during Lent, specifically considering the acts of mercy.



Science

Sound and Vibrations

Children in Derwent and some children in Ladybower will be learning how to;

- Describe how sounds are made.
- Describe how sounds are heard through different mediums.
- Explain the relationship between vibration strength and volume.
- Describe the relationship between volume and distance.
- Describe pitch and how to change it.
- Explain how insulating materials can be used to muffle sound.





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PE

This half term children will be swimming on Tuesday mornings. Children should come to school dressed in PE kits and must remember to bring their swimming kit to school.

They will also have PE in school on Thursday.

History

This half term we're exploring the question **Were the Vikings raiders, traders or something else? to**

Explain where the Vikings came from and why they invaded Britain.

Sequence events according to their significance for groups of people.

Find evidence and make inferences from sources.

Name Viking trade routes.

Explain why trade routes were important to the Vikings.

Identify the differences between Viking sagas.

Evaluate the impact of Viking achievements.

Art

Painting and mixed media- Light and Dark

Derwent will:

- Describe the difference between a tint and a shade.
- Mix tints and shades by adding black or white paint.
- Discuss their real-life experiences of how colours can appear different.
- Use tints and shades to paint an object in 3D.
- Try different arrangements of objects for a composition, explaining their decisions.
- Produce a clear sketch that reflects the arrangement of their objects.
- Create a final painting that shows an understanding of how colour can be used to show light and dark, and therefore show three dimensions.
- Paint with care and control to make a still life with recognisable objects.

How can you help?

- I will 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.

- Each Friday there will be new spellings sent home for the children to practise. These spellings relate to work the children complete in class but 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. Please ensure reading diaries are signed every time your child reads their reading book.

- We will be testing times tables each week, so I would encourage the children to practise regularly using TT Rockstars, Hit the button or MTC Mathshed.

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

Computing

Data Logging

In this unit, pupils will consider how and why data is collected over time. Pupils will consider the senses that humans use to experience the environment and how computers can use special input devices called sensors to monitor the environment. Pupils will collect data as well as access data captured over long periods of time. They will look at data points, data sets, and logging intervals. Pupils will spend time using a computer to review and analyse data. Towards the end of the unit, pupils will pose questions and then use data loggers to automatically collect the data needed to answer those questions.