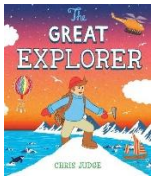
Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

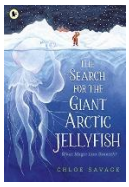
Valehouse Advent 2 Newsletter

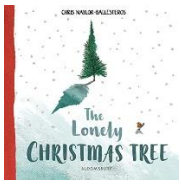
Welcome back to another busy and fun filled half term leading up to our festive celebrations.

English

This half term we will be using these sources to inspire our writing with a focus on Explorers and the Arctic







Narrative writing

Children will describe what Tom the explorer need for his adventure and then use drama and carefully chosen vocabulary to plan and write a new adventure story.

Nonfiction

We will be writing a persuasive letter to an Arctic animal. The children will also write a non-chronological report about the Giant Arctic Jellyfish.

Poetry

We will develop our oracy skills by performing extracts of The Lonely Christmas Tree with expression, then creating a shape poem about a little Christmas tree.

Guided reading

The children will be reading their levelled books in groups three times a week and working together as a class to develop their comprehension skills.

Maths

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

Year 2:

- 10 more, 10 less
- Add and subtract 10s
- Add two 2-digit numbers (not across 10 and across a 10)
- Subtract two 2-digit numbers (not across 10 and across a 10)
- Compare number sentences
- Missing number problems
- Recognise 2D and 3D shapes
- Count sides and vertices on 2D shapes

Year 3

- Subtract 1s and 10s across 100
- Add and subtract two numbers (no exchange)
- Add and subtract two numbers across 10 and 100
- Add 2 digit and 3-digit numbers
- Estimate answers
- Inverse operations
- Multiples of 2, 5, 10
- Multiply and divide by 3 and 4.

RE



Prophecy and Promise

Children will:

Know that the Christian Bible is split into two parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Know that St Luke wrote a gospel containing an account of the life of Jesus and the Acts of the Apostles about the early Church.

Recognise that the Church teaches that Mary is the mother of God who prays for them and with them.

Describe some ways that Christians prepare for Christmas during Advent and Easter during Lent.

Recognise that everyone is tempted to make bad choices (sin), but God loves and forgives all people.

Science



Microhabitats

We will learn how to:

- Identify and name a variety of plants and animals.
- Recall that minibeasts live in microhabitats.
- Describe microhabitats and their conditions.
- Describe how microhabitats provide for the basic needs of animals and plants.
- Describe the job role of a botanist.

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Valehouse Advent 2 Newsletter

PE

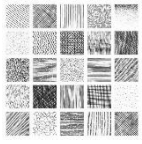
This half term children will have PE on Thursday. Children should come to school dressed in school PE kits.

Geography

This half term we're exploring the question **Who lives in Antarctica?**

- Describe lines of latitude and longitude, giving an example.
- Understand that the Northern and Southern Hemispheres have seasons at different times.
- Define climate zones, giving an example.
- Describe tourism and research as the main reasons people visit Antarctica and list examples of research done there.
- Describe the equipment and clothing researchers use in Antarctica.
- State the outcome of Shackleton's expedition.
- Learn the eight points of a compass, following at least four of them.
- Use the zoom function on a digital map and recognise and describe features of the school grounds from an aerial map.
- Describe a similarity and a difference between life in the UK and life in Antarctica.

Art and Design



Drawing: Developing drawing skills

Children will be able to:

Use their observation skills to describe specific shapes, textures or patterns in objects.

- Shade with a reasonable degree of accuracy and skill following the four shading rules.
- Use mark marking to show texture and details.
- Apply shading skills to show areas of light and dark (tone).
- Apply line, shape and tone with digital tools.
- Save and present digital artwork.
- Use materials to create a design inspired by The Sun.

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

Creating media- Digital photography

Children will learn to recognise that different devices can be used to capture photographs and will gain experience capturing, editing, and improving photos. Finally, they will use this knowledge to recognise that images they see may not be real.