



St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Marnhull

Year 5/6 - St Alban's Class

September 2020

I would like to wish you a warm welcome back to school. I am Mr Young and I am the new St Albans class teacher, along with Mrs Tytheridge who is our class Teaching Assistant. We are having a great few weeks back and the children are quickly getting back in to the swing of things which is fantastic, especially after such a long time out of the classroom!

English:

In line with our whole school topic 'Let's Get Creative' we are reading the book 'The Nowhere Emporium' by Ross Mackenzie as part of our English. The children have all really engaged with the story and seem to be very interested in the theme of the book- and young boy flees from the bully at his children's home and into the mysterious shop that seems to have only just appeared on a Glasgow street, he embarks on a life of imagination and magic, which carries him through time and space and into the heart of a deadly rivalry. Through the children will create their own magical suspense stories as well as write letters and diary entries.

Maths:

In class I have been impressed by the hard work and perseverance the children have shown already, in particular with their maths work.

We have been looking at place value and comparing and ordering numbers up to 1,000,000, and despite some initial apprehension about dealing with such big numbers we have kept going, showed resilience and are making excellent progress already, which is fantastic.

We will then be revising and revisiting the four calculation operations before applying the knowledge and skills to solve a variety of reasoning and problem solving activities as well as putting them into real-life practice!

The Marvellous Maya

Our topic will provide the children with exciting opportunities to learn about this ancient civilisation from both a historical and a geographical point of view; examining their ways of life, language, beliefs, art and music as well as arguably their most famous invention- chocolate!

Science

Our science topic this term will offer the children many opportunities to explore and investigate light. We will try to answer, prove or explain many questions such as; what colour is light? How fast does light travel? Why can't we see in the dark? Can we bend light? As well as making our own shadow puppet shows along the way.

RE: We will continue to teach RE through the Catholic RE scheme; 'Come and See' and cover the following topics: Ourselves & Our families Christmas - Epiphany Judaism	IT: We will develop our understanding of e-safety by creating our own websites about e-safety and In Science create an investigation web page	PE: Cricket, Rounders & Athletics with Mrs Finch
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Here is a 'Weekly Reminder' checklist, ideal for those hurried last minute checks in the mornings!

MONDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spellings sent home • PE
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework due in
THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE
FRIDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spelling Test • Homework sent out

Homework

Homework will be sent out via email on a Friday and will be due back in the following Wednesday. In addition to set homework I will provide links to some sites which can be used to support children's learning at home. Children's spellings will be given out weekly on a Monday and will be tested on a Friday.

Changing Reading Books

We have asked the children to ensure that they have their reading book in school daily and reading is part of our weekly homework. The children will be given a reading record book, so please can I ask that you sign the book when you have heard your child read or have discussed their reading with them.

How you can help your child:

Reading: We cannot emphasise enough, how important it is for your child to read at home on a regular basis. There is a noticeable difference in the progress that children make, not only in reading but in other areas as well, when they read at home. This helps them to increase their reading fluency and comprehension which is essential for all areas of learning.

Times tables: A key skills required to access much more of the Maths curriculum. Whether you help you children to write them, say them or sing them, regular practise will be very beneficial to your child's learning. If you would like any further support with this, please do not hesitate to ask.

Personal Targets - If you are not aware of your child's current personal targets, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,
 Mr Young