

ST.JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH



**YEAR 4
Spring 2017**

Teacher: Mrs Callister & Mrs Whyte
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Happy New Year! We all hope you had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed the rest. We would like to thank both children and parents for their kind Christmas wishes.



The children had a fantastic first term in Year 4 as you can see above; they have worked exceptionally hard and are an absolute pleasure to teach. We all enjoyed working on the Christmas nativity 'Lights, Camel, Action!' and we were very proud to see them all up on stage. The whole team at St Joseph's would like to thank parents for supporting children when learning their lines and also for your help with costumes.

Here is an overview of what we will be learning at school during the Spring term.

<u>R.E.</u>	<u>LITERACY</u>	<u>NUMERACY</u>
<p><u>Revelation</u> * Know the story of the Presentation and the Transfiguration and the meaning behind them. * Know why light is an important symbol in God's revelation.</p> <p><u>Lent</u> * Understand that Jesus overcame temptation and recognise the challenges Christians face in daily lives. * Explore the meanings of the key teachings in the Beatitudes.</p> <p><u>Holy Week</u> * Know the story of Holy Week in detail. * Understand some of the reasons why Jesus was put to death. We will also be looking at Other Faiths.</p>	<p>The majority of our Literacy work will be based around different texts. This term we will be focussing on:</p> <p><u>Non-fiction</u> – explanation texts <u>Poetry</u> – performance poetry <u>Non-fiction</u> – recounts <u>Fiction</u> - stories in imaginary worlds <u>Fiction</u> – Diary entry</p> <p>We will also be developing our grammar, punctuation and sentence structure skills.</p> <p>Spellings and dictation appropriate to their ability.</p> <p>Weekly reading comprehensions. We will also be introducing the 'close' reading which encourages children to develop their inference and deduction skills</p> <p>Weekly handwriting lessons.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Coordinates * Negative numbers * Column addition, column subtraction, column multiplication, 'bus stop' division * Multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12 (on-going throughout the year) * Fractions and decimals * Units of measure * Area and perimeter of shapes * Money * Time <p>Weekly mental maths and times tables tests.</p>

<u>SCIENCE</u>	<u>HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY</u>	<u>ART / DT</u>	<u>P. E.</u>	<u>Computing</u>
Changing state The Water Cycle	Biomes and weather Rivers Europe	Colour mixing to create weather pictures Making a weather station Painting in the style of Monet	Handball Athletics Gymnastics Dance	Excel – Inputting data and creating graphs PowerPoint – making a weather forecast Internet research

P.E. / Games – This will take place on Monday and Wednesday. Please ensure that P.E. kit is in school everyday as it may be required for additional games and activities. As well as shorts and a t-shirt, could you please include trainers, a jumper and jogging bottoms for games sessions, as the children will be outside. **A gentle reminder to please ensure that all their kit is named.**

Reading - Reading is really important and in order to continue making progress, the children should be reading for 20 minutes a night. Reading journals will now be kept in school and children will be asked to fill in their reading every morning.

Homework - Thank you for your continued support with homework. We are having a focus on arithmetic this half term following the assessments completed in November. Each Monday your child will bring home a booklet containing arithmetic questions. Please can they complete as much as they can in 30 minutes and make sure children do not worry if they are unable to complete the booklets in given time.

Times tables - We have seen an improvement in the children's times tables and they enjoy their weekly tests. It is lovely to see the children so proud of themselves when they improve on previous test scores and achieve the hallowed 30 / 30! However, they still need plenty of practice to aid instant recall at a faster pace.

Spelling and dictation - Once a week, the children will continue to be tested on their spelling list. They will also be carrying out dictations from this term onwards, which use specific spelling rules along with ones previously learnt. It is important that the children continue to learn their spellings.

Assembly - Year 4's class assembly will be on Friday 9th February at 2.20pm. You are more than welcome to come along and join us.

Coats - Whilst the weather is still cold and wet, please ensure that the children come to school each day with a coat. All hats, gloves and scarves, as well as their coat, should be labelled with your child's name.

Fruit break - At morning play, the children may bring into school a piece of fruit to eat, which should be fresh fruit and not dried fruit or sweets. Please also remember that we are a **nut free school** when preparing your child's packed lunch.

If you have any concerns or queries regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Year 4 team.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Callister, Mrs Whyte & Mrs Jung

