



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

Spring Class Newsletter

Year 4 Class Teacher: Mr Iredale

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday. The children have come back refreshed and ready for the new term.

Maths

Over the next two terms we will be focusing on multiplication. We will work progressively on the 3x, 6x and 9x tables. Each time we will practise counting in the relevant multiples, practise quick recall of x tables facts and use known x tables facts to help us with facts we don't yet know. We will look at patterns in each table and the relationship between them. We will then move on to the 7x and 12x tables so that by Easter we will be well on our way to being able to quickly recall all the x tables facts. Then we will look at the effect of multiplying and dividing whole numbers by 10 and 100. We will delve deeper into how to manipulate multiplication and division equations when solving problems. Finally we will learn how to draw polygons using co-ordinates and how to move ('translate') them.

English

Class novel:

King of the Cloud Forests by Michael Morpurgo

We will use Our Pathways to Write set texts '*Koji's Island*' and '*Amazing Islands*' to help plan similar writing. We will use the latter to help us learn about the important features of a variety of islands. This knowledge will help us to produce better informed writing when we write in the first person our own version of Koji's Island. In our writing sessions we are building our range of sentence structures using an increasing variety of conjunctions and adverbial phrases. We will focus in on choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately. We are also continuing to work on using correct punctuation including commas within sentences and paragraphing. In handwriting we are recapping on correct letter for-

mation and practising our joins. We are also learning how to spell the common exception words from the Year 3 / 4 list and self-correct those and any other common words when we proofread our work. We will use our spelling logs to target common words we misspell.

Reading

In Guided Reading we are continuing to practise our fluency and comprehension skills. We are using context and dictionaries to work out the meaning of unknown vocabulary. We will practise these new words for homework. We are learning how to mark the text to help us practise our intonation and expression when reading aloud. We will continue to practising our retrieval and inference skills when working on reading comprehension.

Topic— Misty Mountain, Winding River

This term, our topic is Geography based. To begin with we will focus on rivers; looking at the different features along a river from source to mouth and the way they can change the landscape. We will then move on to learning about the Water Cycle before learning about mountains. We will learn about different types of mountains and the how the features of a mountain change as you ascend them. We will also look at contour lines on maps.

Focused Science Units: Sound and States of Matter

Focused Art and DT: Landscape and Perspective; Animals in Art; Functional and Fancy Fabrics

Computing: Data Logging and E-Safety

French: colours, parts of the body and animals



T: 01993 702 480

E: office@ololwit.org.uk

www.ololwit.org.uk

Attendance: As always, attendance is of great importance and any absences, even if only one day, can have a negative impact on your child's learning. Taking responsibility for their attendance also instils good habits within the children, for the future. Of course, sickness cannot be helped and we would not expect your child to be in with a significant illness.

RE:

In RE our topics are Christmas where we will focus on the important role of the messages given by the angels. After that we will study the stories of Moses to King David, Lent, Living as followers of Jesus today and finally Holy Week.

School Rules

At Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary school, our whole school rules are — **Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe**— these rules guide our behaviour and interactions, creating an environment where everyone can thrive. But what do they mean?

BE READY— Our body and brain are prepared to start learning. We pay attention to what is happening around us.

BE RESPECTFUL— We treat people the way we would like to be treated. We use kind words and actions.

BE SAFE— We use our bodies and equipment in the right way to keep ourselves and others safe.

Homework

Regular practising of the Times Tables is vitally important in Year 4. Not only will it help them do really well in the statutory assessment in May but it will make such a difference to their confidence and fluency with calculations moving forward. Good tables knowledge will allow your child to focus more easily on the more complex concepts they will encounter in Year 5 and beyond. You can help your child by encouraging them to practise by chanting, writing out, answering random facts orally or using online sites such as TTRS or Topmarks or others. We use TTRS in class as it employs an algorithm to adjust questions according to your child's performance. The best game to use is Garage as it gives the most rewards and is best at improving their 'heatmap'.

A short reading comprehension and vocabulary exercise will also need to be done each week.

We will continue to send levelled reading books home by Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday. These books are intended to ensure children experience a range of genres and subject areas at their level so please persevere with these. Please aim for a minimum of four entries in the diary a week. No long comments are needed. Just date and initial is fine if time is short. Of course reading and discussing other books alongside your child is a really special and a very worthwhile thing to do to encourage a love of reading and to support vocabulary development and understanding of plot and character.

PE this term

PE days: Monday and Thursday

We will continue to have swimming every Monday until half term. On Thursdays we will learn communication and tactics in ball games and after half term we will do tag rugby. On Thursdays please ensure your child comes into school in their PE kits which includes a house coloured top, a plain jumper, navy/black joggers/shorts and suitable trainers.

Snack and drinks

Children should only bring fruit or vegetable snacks into school as we encourage healthy eating. Please make sure your child does not bring in crisps, biscuits or other processed snacks to eat at break time.

Your child may bring a water bottle into the classroom but please note that squash or sweetened drinks are not allowed. However, they are allowed these with their lunch.

If you have any queries about your child's progress or welfare, please do not hesitate to contact me to make an appointment to come and see me. You can do this by catching me after school when you collect your child or alternatively by contacting the school office.

With best wishes,

Mr Iredale

