

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

CURRICULUM INFORMATION





Subject	What are we learning?	How can you help at home?
English	For the first part of the half term, we will be exploring the book 'George's Secret Key to the Universe' by Lucy & Stephen Hawking. This book is a rollercoaster ride through space to	Practise the Year 5/6 statutory spellings with your child at home – as well as writing them, you could play games to help learn them.
STEPHEN HAWKING	discover the mysteries of our universe, written by science educator Lucy Hawking and her father, Stephen - the most famous scientist in the world. Using the text as inspiration, we will write our own solar system explanation texts.	Talk about the book/film with your child - what have they remembered? Is there anything in particular that they have found interesting?
	For the second part of the half term, we will be using the film 'Pandora Discovered', which is a short film narrated by Sigourney Weaver that gives a look at the world of Pandora, as portrayed in James Cameron's epic motion picture, Avatar. We will use this exciting media to inspire us to write our own non-chronological reports detailing our own planets.	
Reading	This half term we will be looking at another Space-themed novel: 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce. We will practise our	Please read frequently with your child - practise will help improve their pace and fluency of reading.
Cosmic Lis one giant	fluency whilst reading, along with our predicting and inference skills.	Ask your child questions whilst reading together - what do they think will happen next? What is their opinion of the text? If they were that character, what would they do?
leap & deport and boy-kind	We will also have a series of tasks that will allow us to share our ideas and opinions finally reaching a conclusion about the book.	Encourage your child to write down any inferences or ideas they had about the book in their homework books. It would be great to see their opinions!
Maths	In Maths we will be continuing multiplication and division for the first three weeks. We will be multiplying and dividing 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers by 1 and 2 digit numbers.	Help your child to practise their new maths knowledge by ensuring they can rapidly recall their times tables facts, including division facts. This can be done on the Times Tables Rockstars
Th H T O	We will apply our learning through fluency, problem solving and reasoning.	website: https://ttrockstars.com/
x 4 7	During the last two weeks of the half term, we will then move on to fractions, focusing on subtracting fractions, multiplying fractions and finding fractions of an amount.	



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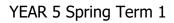


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RE	In RE, we will look at 'Christmas'. We will explore the difficulties faced by Mary and Joseph, as revealed in Mathew's Gospel, including the role of King Herod. We will also look at the implications of the Christmas story for us today. We will then be looking at Revelation. We will study parables that look at our understanding of the Kingdom of God, and we will explore how the divine revelation is communicated, particularly in baptism. Key Scripture includes – Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22, John 1:29-34, Matthew 3:1-12, Mark 4:1-9, 13-20, Luke 8:4-15, Matthew 7:24-27, Luke 6:46-49, Matthew 22:1-14, Luke 14:15-24	Discuss with your child who the Wise Men were and what we can learn from their journey. Ask your child their thoughts and discuss their reflections on refugees and why they may have to leave their country of birth (and how this relates to Mary & Joseph's flight to Egypt). Encourage them to share their knowledge and thoughts about the circumstances of Jesus's birth & flight to Egypt, as well as how these circumstances can inspire our actions today.
Topic	Our topic lessons will have a geography focus, and will revolve around the study of Eastern Europe. We will be looking at the continent of Europe, countries and cities within the continent, comparing landscapes, comparing climates, comparing places, planning a hypothetical trip and looking at the Chernobyl disaster, what happened and its effects.	This topic will help your child to gain an understanding of geographical enquiry. Why not see what research you can conduct at home about Eastern Europe, using the internet or your local library? Talk to your child about the topic and see what else they can find out.
Science	In Science, we will be looking at 'Earth and Space'. We will be looking at a range of topics including the movement of the Sun, Earth and Moon, day and night, seasons and phases of the Moon. The children will be provided with the opportunity for independent and group work to develop their working scientifically skills within this fascinating topic, such as making detailed observations of shadows throughout the day when investigating the Sun's apparent movement across the sky.	Discuss with your child different stars and planets in Space and ask them questions, for example, how far away are they? Use internet, books and factsheets to research answers. Can your child observe any changes to the Moon? – how does it appear? Does that change on a daily/weekly/monthly basis?
Art & DT	In DT, we will be looking at circuits and electronic games. We will build on our knowledge of electrical components and circuit building to design a new 'must-have' electronic game. The children will investigate steady-hand type games which include electrical components and will design and make their own game based around the current topic of Space.	Encourage your child to explore any electronic games they may have to understand how they work, for example, Operation – what do they think causes the buzzing sound? How do they think it works?



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PE	Children should come into school wearing their P.E kits. They will be doing PE outside for most of the time so please ensure your child is dressed accordingly. When the weather gets very cold and wet, PE will take place in the hall.	 Please make sure your child has full PE kit. Jewellery is not allowed. Long hair should be tied back. For safety reasons, one small stud earring per ear.
	Our PE day is MONDAY.	Go Noodle and BBC Super Movers are great websites to get moving indoors!
PSHE	This topic focuses on being created to love others. We are building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love. The aim is to explore how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and teaches strategies for developing healthy relationships and keeping safe.	Discuss with your child different ways in which they can express love and gratitude to others. Encourage them to share thoughts on how to develop healthy relationships and how they can keep themselves safe.
Music	In Music, we will be looking at 'Make You Feel My Love'. We will use an integrated approach to music where games, singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other pop ballards.	Practise singing with your child! Encourage them to listen to 'pop ballads' songs and listen for similarities between songs.
French	In French we will be looking at the topic 'That's Tasty', In this Unit, the children learn key vocabulary and phrases connected to a variety of food-based themes. They will learn vocabulary and sentence building connected to drinks, breakfasts, pizzas, sandwiches and favourite foods.	Practice the French words and phrases with your child, recap these throughout the term to aid their fluency and recall.
Homework	For Homework this term, we are prioritising the key skills children need to underpin their learning: Reading, Spelling and Times Tables, in addition to English and Maths: Please ensure your child reads at least 5 times per week and that this is recorded in their reading record. The expectation in Year 5 is for children to begin to read and record their reading more independently, however, it is also an expectation that your child reads to an adult at home at least once per week. I will aim to read with your child at least once per week. Children need to bring their reading record into school every day. Spellings should be learned daily and will be tested weekly. Practise times tables and the related division facts daily using Times Tables Rockstars — your child should have brought this home already.	