









# Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

## CURRICULUM INFORMATION

### YEAR 4 Spring 1



Subject	What are we learning?	How can you help at home?
<b>English - Writing</b> 	Through 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Todd-Stanton, we will create our own adventure story based on Eric Brownstone. We will then move on to 'How to Train Your Dragon: Incomplete Book of Dragons' by Cressida Cowell, where we will write a non-chronological report about a dragon, in the style of the text.	<p>Support your child with careful handwriting, punctuation and spelling whenever they're writing at home.</p> <p>We are starting our spelling scheme, Spelling Shed, this half term. Your child will receive weekly spellings. Please support them with learning these words. They may have some spellings they have already had, depending on what stage spelling group your child is in.</p>
<b>English – Reading</b> 	We will develop our reading skills through two texts this half term: 'Viking Voyagers' by Jack Tite and 'The Dragon's Hoard: Stories from the Viking Sagas' by Lari Don. We will make predictions and practice our retrieval skills, as well as inferring a character's thoughts and feelings, analysing language and identifying key information from non-fiction.	<p>We would love you to hear your child read as often as possible, and they will bring home a school reading book.</p> <p>Talk about the books your child is reading, ask them what's happened so far, or what they think will happen next. Discuss any new vocabulary. Talk about how a character might be feeling and why.</p>
<b>Maths</b> 	We will begin the half term with place value and measurement. We will start by revisiting key facts for length and counting in fractional steps, before moving on to reading scales accurately and solving problems involving length and mass. We will then move on to identifying key facts for time, telling the time to the nearest minute and writing and converting time between analogue and digital clocks. We will then revisit some of our learning from our previous fractions and geometry unit.	<p>Support your child by telling the time to the nearest minute on clocks at home. When you are cooking, support your child to help read the scales.</p> <p>You could also download the White Rose Minute Maths App, <a href="https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths">https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths</a> and have a go at some of the addition and subtraction activities on there.</p>
<b>RE</b> 	In RE, we will be starting our Christmas unit. Using the key question: 'Who are God's messengers?', we will be looking at what part the angels played in the Christmas story, who else are 'Messengers of God' and how we can be a messenger of God. The key scriptures we will look at include Luke 1:5 and 2:20 Birth of John the Baptist and Birth of Jesus and Matthew 1:18 and 2:21. We will then move on to Revelation.	Discuss with your child how we can be messengers of God. You could make a poster about someone who you believe is a good example of a messenger of God and explain why.
<b>History</b> 	We will be learning all about the 'The Vikings vs Anglo-Saxons' through our History topic. We will explore where the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings came from, how they fought for territory and power, and how their fighting ultimately led to the kingdom of England we know today. We will also find out about what life was like for everyday people living in Anglo-Saxon and Viking Britain, exploring things such as Viking runes and Anglo-Saxon stories like Beowulf.	You could support your child to use the internet to see what they can find out about The Vikings. Perhaps you could visit the library and find some books about our topic.
<b>French</b> 	Through our 'Going Shopping' topic, we will learn about the shopping experience in France. We will learn specific vocabulary of fruit, vegetables and clothes and key phrases for asking the questions needed when going shopping. The unit will conclude with a role play, where children will take on the roles of shoppers and shopkeepers.	Ask your child to share the new vocabulary they have learned with you. If you know any French, you could help your child practise their newest phrases and knowledge!










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<b>Science</b> 	<p>We will be finding out about 'Changing Sound'. We will find out that sounds are made when objects and materials vibrate and we will investigate whether sounds can travel through different materials. We will explore the relationship between distance and volume before learning how some materials are effective in preventing vibrations from sound sources reaching the ear. We will then move on to investigating how sounds can be different pitches and volumes, how the length, thickness and tightness of a string affects its pitch and how sounds can be made by air vibrating.</p>	<p>Can you conduct an experiment at home to see how far away your child has to be before they can no longer hear a familiar sound. Ask them to think about whether the sound is high or low.</p>
<b>Art</b> 	<p>We are focusing on mixed media in Art and will be making Anglo-Saxon crosses. We will look at imagery of Anglo-Saxon symbols and create sketchbook pages of designs. We will discuss the similarities and differences between other religious symbols both from the past and present and the children will use cardboard to cut, stick and create their own Anglo-Saxon cross, focusing on texture and depth. We will create our own colour scheme and add shading using brushes and sponges, before adding detail to our final pieces.</p>	<p>Research some Anglo-Saxon symbols and crosses as inspiration for your final piece. Bring in some pictures if you find any interesting ones!</p>
<b>PE</b> 	<p>In PE we will be learning tennis and badminton. During these activities we will develop our skills of serving and batting and learning new team techniques.  <u><b>Long hair must be tied up and earrings removed.</b></u></p> <p>Our PE days are <b>TUESDAYS and WEDNESDAYS</b></p>	<p>Please also make sure your child has the correct PE kit. Children should come into school wearing PE kits. We may do PE outside so please ensure your child is dressed accordingly.          Information on required PE kit can be found on our website:  <a href="http://www.holycrosscpri.iow.sch.uk/web/school_uniform/591997">http://www.holycrosscpri.iow.sch.uk/web/school_uniform/591997</a></p>
<b>PSHE</b> 	<p>As part of our topic 'Created to Love Others' (which spans all of the Spring Term), we will explore our relationships with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love, we will explore how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and we will learn strategies for developing healthy relationships and keeping safe both online and in our daily lives.</p>	<p>You could discuss with your child the importance of keeping safe online and strategies to ensure that your child stays safe.</p>
<b>Music</b> 	<p>Our music lessons will be delivered as an immersion day this half term and it will link to our topic of Vikings. We will learn to sing in time with others, recognise simple rhythmic notation by ear and by sight and use simple rhythmic notation to compose and perform a Viking battle song.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to sing or play the songs they've been learning to you (if they're brave enough!)</p>
<b>Computing</b> 	<p>We will be looking at 'Programming – Repetition in Shapes'. We will create programs by planning, modifying and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. We will use Logo, a text-based programming language. This is the first of two programming units in Year 4 and in this unit, we will be focusing on repetition and loops within programming.</p>	<p>Have a go at practising some of the commands learnt at school at home on Logo! What patterns can you create?</p>
<b>Homework</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading – recording it in the reading record (15mins). <b>Children need their reading book and reading record in school every day.</b></li> <li>• Daily Times tables practise – <a href="#">TT Rock Stars</a> (5mins)</li> <li>• Weekly Maths and Reading Comprehension (Set on a Monday, due in on a Monday)</li> <li>• Weekly Spelling (Set on a Friday, tested the following Friday)</li> </ul>	