



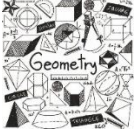






Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

YEAR 4 Spring 2



Subject	What are we learning?	How can you help at home?
English – Writing 	Through ‘Amazing Islands’ by Sabrina Weiss, we will create our own island and then write an advert to persuade holidaymakers to visit. We will then move on to ‘Island’ by Mark Janssen, which is a wordless picture book. We will use the pictures in the book to support us with writing the story.	Support your child with careful handwriting, punctuation and spelling whenever they’re writing at home. Your child will also receive weekly spellings. Please support them with learning these words.
English – Reading 	We will develop our reading skills through two texts this half term: ‘Island: A Story of the Galapagos’ by Jason Chin and ‘Turtle Moon’ by Hannah Gold. 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.	We would love you to hear your child read as often as possible, and they will bring home a school reading book. 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.
Maths 	We will begin the half term with fractions and geometry. We will start by adding and subtracting hundredths before moving on to adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator and recognising decimal and fraction equivalence. We will then learn to compare and classify quadrilaterals, describe movements as translations and compare angles in 2D shapes. Then we will revisit place value and addition and subtraction, learning new concepts and deepening our understanding of previous ones.	Please support your child with their times tables, in preparation for the Multiplication Test in June. Year 4, Key Stage 2, Practice Times Tables Tests (Multiplication Tables Check) is a useful website to practice the format of the test.
RE 	In RE, we will be starting our Lent unit. Using the key question: ‘How can we use Lent to make more space in our lives for God?’, we will be looking at why we need Lent, how Jesus took time to make space in his life and how prayer, fasting and almsgiving help us make space. The key scriptures we will look at include Matthew 4:1-11 The Temptations of Jesus, Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18 Teaching on Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving, Luke 18: 9-14 Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector and Matthew 5:1-12 The Beatitudes.	You could reflect on the scriptures with your child and discuss their meaning. Talk about why we fast during Lent and what you might like to give up during Lent.
Geography 	We will be learning all about ‘Our European Neighbours’ through our Geography topic. We will locate Europe on a world map and find out about its features, before identifying and locating countries in Europe. We will also identify and compare major capital cities in Europe before finding out about the human and physical features of a European country.	You could support your child to use the internet to see what they can find out about a European country. Perhaps you could visit the library and find some books about our topic.
French 	Through our ‘Where in the World?’ topic, we will learn key vocabulary related to countries/continents and animals. We will learn specific vocabulary of countries of the United Kingdom, continents, animals from different continents and a country’s position related to the Equator.	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!
Forest School 	We are very lucky to be participating in Forest School sessions this half term with Mrs. Hamilton. Forest School aims to promote the holistic development of all involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners. Our Forest School day is TUESDAY .	Please make sure your child has full Forest School clothing including waterproof shoes, trousers and a coat. Lots of layers are essential as we will be outside in all weathers.


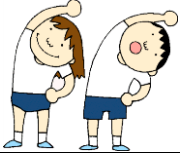






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Science 	We will be finding out about 'Scientists and Inventors'. We will explore famous scientists and inventors linked to the Year 4 science curriculum, including Alexander Graham Bell and his invention of the telephone, Gerald Durrell's conservation efforts on Madagascar and the work of Thomas Edison and Lewis Latimer. We will develop our scientific enquiry skills, making observations, predictions and conclusions.	Can you have a go at any of the experiments at home? What interesting facts can you find out about our inventors?
PE 	In PE we will be learning netball and basketball. During these activities we will develop simple tactical understanding for attacking and defending. <u>Long hair must be tied up and earrings removed.</u> Our PE days are TUESDAYS and WEDNESDAYS	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: http://www.holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk/web/school_uniform/591997
PSHE 	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.	You could discuss with your child the importance of keeping safe online and strategies to ensure that your child stays safe.
Music 	Our music immersion day this half term will link to our topic, or across other curriculum subjects.	Encourage your child to sing or play the songs they've been learning to you (if they're brave enough!)
Computing 	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.	Have a go at practising some of the commands learnt at school at home on Logo! What patterns can you create?
Homework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily reading – recording it in the reading record (15mins). Children need their reading book and reading record in school every day.• Daily Times tables practise – Talking Times Tables (5mins).• Weekly Times Table Facts, Reading Comprehension and Spelling (Maths and Reading set on a Monday, due in on a Monday, Spelling set on a Friday, due in on a Friday).	