

**Mission Statement Motto:** *Building relationships with God and each other, working hard in faith and hope to give our best in all things*

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Daiglen Drive, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 5RP

Tel: 01708 853000

Email: [office@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk](mailto:office@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk)

Website: <http://www.holycrossprimary.com>

Headteacher: Mrs Sandra Power BA(Hons) NPQH



Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers of St Therese of Lisieux Class

## Year 4 Spring Term Curriculum Letter

This term, we will be learning about **Romans on the Rampage!** This letter will give you some key information about what we will be learning this term and how you can support this learning at home. Please see below :

| Subject                    | Content   | Supporting your child home  |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Religious Education</b> | <p>Our topics this term are:</p> <p>'Community' – life in the local Christian community and ministries in the parish. Children will share experiences of community as an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith</p> <p>'Giving and Receiving' – Living in communion. Children will explore that being thoughtful for life, for people and gifts, is a vital part of our relationships with one another. When praise and appreciation are experienced, we are enabled to relate on a deeper level.</p> <p>'Self-discipline' – celebrating growth to new life. Life, especially family life, or life in school, is full of opportunities for self-giving.</p> | <p>Please ensure that your child knows how to reverently bless themselves and understand the importance of stillness during prayer time.</p> <p>There are home learning packs at the following link to enhance your child's spiritual learning: <a href="https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/catholic-education/primary/come-and-see-resources-and-other-faiths/">https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/catholic-education/primary/come-and-see-resources-and-other-faiths/</a></p> |
| <b>English</b>             | <p>In reading this term, we will be focussing on the learning behaviours for reading through the use of VIPERS and will be practising using our reading skills. We will be reading two books this term which are The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane and How to Train your Dragon.</p> <p>In writing we will be focusing on the books Frindleswylde, Cinnamon, The Lion and the Unicorn, and The Matchbox Diary. The children will learn a range of GPS skills building up to extended pieces of writing.</p>   | <p>You can support your child by reading with them each night and asking them questions about what they have read. It is the expectation in KS2 that your child reads three times a week. Please help your child learn their ten weekly spellings that they bring home every Monday.</p>  |
| <b>Maths</b>               | <p>This term the children will be developing their multiplication and division skills, continuing to</p>  | <p>Please ensure you practice your child's times tables. You can use timetable rock star for this</p>   |



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|                              | <p>explore decimals, looking at the area of shapes and then moving on to fractions. We will also continue to work hard on developing and improving our times tables knowledge.</p>  | <p>or visit <a href="http://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/">www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/</a></p> <p>You can also support your child by encouraging them to explain how they got their answer and ask them to explain how they know they are correct. This will deepen their reasoning and problem-solving skills.</p> <p>Please also encourage your child to work on reading an analogue clock. This is an important skill that they need to work on as lots of the children are used to seeing a digital clock but lack the understanding of reading past and to the hour on a clock.</p> |
| <b>Science</b>               | <p>Our topic this term is states of matter. Children will look at solids, liquids and gases and they will be able to identify what happens to them when temperature is added or decreased. We will also look at the water cycle and how that happens.</p> | <p>Explore with water and what happens to it when it is heated and frozen.</p> <p>Find some non-fiction books on states of matter in the library.</p>  |
| <b>History</b>               | <p>This half term we will be focussing on The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. We will investigate The Roman invasion by seeking to answer: Was the Roman invasion good or bad for Britain?</p>  | <p>Find and discuss photographs of different Roman inventions in Britain such as roads, the names of cities and towns.</p> <p>Together investigate what the Romans used stinging nettles for.</p> <p>Watch and discuss Horrible History Rotten Romans movie – What do you notice about the tools, they used? Their homes? Their inventions?</p>  |
| <b>Geography</b>             | <p>Next half term we will learn about earthquakes and volcanoes which we will link back to our learning about the Romans. We will develop our physical knowledge by describing and developing our understanding of volcanoes and earthquakes.</p>         | <p>Research and discuss the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD destroyed the Roman cities of Pompeii.</p> <p>Discuss what causes earthquakes and volcanoes and what we could do to prevent them.</p>  |
| <b>Art</b>                   | <p>In Art this half term, we will be developing our tie dye, weaving and sewing skills. We will create mood boards as inspiration, learning to tie-dye, weaving and sewing to create a range of effects using fabric.</p>                                 | <p>Why not make your own tie-dye shirts using the link below:<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bxn55P_8kyC">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bxn55P_8kyC</a></p> <p>Research different tie-dye/sewing methods then create your own designs together.</p>  |
| <b>Design and Technology</b> | <p>Next half term our DT will be linked to history. We will learn about the various forms of 'Information design' before children are briefed to develop an electric museum display based on The Romans.</p>  | <p>Create a 'information design' together.</p> <p>Design a Roman soldier outfit that gives information about the jog they do.</p>  |
| <b>Music</b>                 | <p>Our topic this term is called 'Stop!' We will explore Grime, classical, Bhangra, Tango, Latin Fusion and composition.</p> <p>We will also focus on the song 'Lean On Me' and Gospel in its historical context.</p>                                     | <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jrlhn1H1EWw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jrlhn1H1EWw</a></p>   |

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| <b>Physical Education</b> | <p>This term the children will be attending swimming lessons each week. Swimming is every Tuesday.</p> <p>Our second PE session will be taught by our Pro-Sports coach and will focus on Dance and Basketball.</p>   | <p>Take your child swimming to develop their swimming skills.</p> <p>Practise throwing, catching and moving balls with every part of their body.</p> <p>On Youtube you can find lots of Just Dance videos.</p> <p>Get your child to go out and play in the garden or exercise for 30 minutes a day.</p> |
| <b>PSHE</b>               | <p>Using the resources from Ten Ten Resources, our module is 'Created To Love Others'. It explores the individual's relationship with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love, this module explores how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and teaches strategies for developing healthy relationships and keeping safe both online and in our daily lives.</p> | <p>Discuss different types of families, friendship groups and other people we might meet. Talk about how some people are more important in our lives than others.</p>   |
| <b>French</b>             | <p>This term, the children will study the topics 'Les Fetes' and 'Ou vas-tu?' which covers festivals and dates, presents, counts from 31-60 and weather directions.</p>  | <p>Encourage your child to teach you some French words and phrases that they have learnt that day.</p>  |
| <b>Computing</b>          | <p>We will be learning about website design, HTML and Online Safety.</p>   | <p>Talk about how to be safe online when using different devices.</p> <p>Encourage your children to be kind to others when talking to their friends on games or messaging.</p> <p>Look at some age appropriate websites and think about how their designs are similar and different.</p>                |

Winter Uniform will continue to be worn for the remainder of this term, until Easter break. We encourage all of the children to wear their uniform with pride. We would also like to remind you again that all items of uniform must be labelled with your child's name. This should avoid you having to replace lost items at great cost! All children must wear black shoes to school and not trainers. Hair accessories should be in the colours of our school uniform: blue, white or yellow.

I look forward to working in partnership with you this term. For other dates, please refer to the School Newsletter. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to let me know. My email is [year4@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk](mailto:year4@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Cooper  
Class Teacher

