

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

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Thursday, 23rd January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers of St Cecilia Class

Spring Term Curriculum Letter

My name is Miss Ahmad, and I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Year 5 teacher at Holy Cross Primary School. I am very much looking forward to working in partnership with you this term to support your children's learning and development.

This term, we will be learning a range of topics. This letter will give you some key information about what we will be covering and how you can support your child's learning at home. Please see below

Subject	Content	Supporting your child home
Religious Education	This term we will be exploring the Catholic Mission and our community. We will find out about the Eucharist and look at the sacrifices made during the season of Lent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read through verses related to our themes at home from your Bible. Decide what you are going to sacrifice during Lent.• Research some prominent Catholic missionaries (e.g., Mother Teresa) and discuss their good work.• Think about how you and your child can be part of the Catholic Mission.• Discuss religious symbols such as the Eucharist and tabernacle.• Use the CAFOD or Mission websites.
English	Through reading our class texts <i>Street Child</i> and <i>Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief</i> , we will sharpen our skills in inference and prediction. In writing, we'll dive into a range of texts, using them to create exciting narratives, clear instructions, and informative reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to read daily with your child.• Practise spellings daily and put them into sentences.• Allow your children to develop their creative writing by writing a diary entry daily or their own creative narrative.
Maths	This term, we will be learning multiplication, division, and fractions, building our number fluency and enhancing our reasoning and problem-solving skills. Using our maths scheme, we'll continue to develop these skills and take on challenges along the way.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practise times tables daily.• Please read our class Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) for Spring 1 & 2.• You can also support your child by encouraging them to explain how they got their answer and asking them to explain how they know they are correct. This will deepen their reasoning and problem-solving skills.



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Science	We will continue to explore invisible forces around us and how they interact with our environment, followed by a chemistry unit on changes in state. We will conduct exciting experiments to investigate irreversible and reversible changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You could complete some fun and easy experiments at home, for example, making boats from different materials to test buoyancy or paper airplanes to explore air resistance. Through cooking, you can show the children that irreversible changes occur due to heat. For more ideas on experiments you can try at home, follow: Kids Science Experiments Science Experiments for Kids Science Fun
History	This term, we will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons. We'll explore where they originated, uncover the incredible impact they had on Britain in the past, and discover how their influence still shapes Britain today	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discover the fascinating history behind the famous Sutton Hoo – what makes this site so special? Get creative and make your own myth inspired by Nordic stories. You can check out YouTube for tales like <i>Beowulf</i> to spark your imagination!
Geography	How is climate change impacting our world? This term, we will dive into the effects of climate change on global climate zones, biomes, and ecosystems. We'll uncover how these changes are transforming natural environments and reshaping human communities, revealing the challenges and solutions ahead.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design your own biome at home. Think about the plants, animals, and climate conditions that make it unique. Research the impacts of climate change on our planet, focusing on how different ecosystems are affected. Write a speech to present your findings, highlighting the urgency of the issue and possible solutions.
Art	Exploring the meaning behind art – analyse the work of Banksy; making symmetry prints inspired by Rorschach, telling a story using emojis, re-enacting a poignant war scene and taking inspiration from ceramic artist Odundo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at some of the artists and the meaning behind their artwork Try and recreate your favourite one.
Design and Technology	Research existing playground equipment and their different forms, before designing and developing a range of apparatus to meet a list of specified design criteria.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit your local park and see how the equipment works. Sketch some of the equipment such as slides, swings and seesaws.
Music	The children will continue to have ukulele lessons, progressing by learning new chords and how to play the ukulele	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help practice at home, watch YouTube videos to reinforce the chords that have previously been taught.
Physical Education	PE will be on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Dance Rounders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete some 'Just Dance' workouts on YouTube. If you have a small ball – practise throwing this into the air and catching.
PSHE	We will continue using the Dot Com scheme in school to deliver PSHE. This term, your child will explore the following topics: Being Special and Different Right For Every Child Living Together The Value of Friendship Love, Honour and Courage Keeping Safe Early Warning Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your child about their day and encourage them to talk about their feelings, particularly how they are coping with their schoolwork as they transition into a new year group. Visit the 'Thinkuknow' website together and discuss how to stay safe while using the internet. CEOP Education (thinkuknow.co.uk)



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French	In French, we will continue learning how to ask questions about each other, including topics such as family, school, and favourite foods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Download the free Duolingo app, select French, and start building new vocabulary. Encourage your child to practice their French with you.
Computing	We will be using 2Calculate to work with databases. This will involve using spreadsheets and learning how to create code to speed up calculations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find out some jobs that use spreadsheets.• Create your own spreadsheet using purple mash.

For important dates and updates, please refer to the school newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at:

year5@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Miss S Ahmad
Year 5 Class Teacher

