

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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Dear Parents,

St Laura Montoya Autumn Term

This term, we will be learning about **Forceful Pharaohs**. 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
Religious Education	The children will study two topics this term – Creation and Covenant and Prophecy and Promise . In our Creation and Covenant topic, the children will explore the the story of Abraham. Joseph and his family. We will make links between virtues and the way a person lives. In our Prophecy and Promise topic children will learn how Prophets waken an expectation of the coming of the Messiah – the coming of God, in the person of Jesus, 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem. He was not a passing visitor, but One who comes to dwell among us, the Word made flesh. We will also explore Jesus's ancestry and the joyful expectation of Advent, is an encouragement to take steps to recognise the coming of God into the world today, and to believe that in the future this same God will come again in glory.	Continue to read, discuss and spend quality time with each other and explain to your child how each activity is an expression of love. Together, discuss the story of Abraham in Genesis. Read and discuss the Christmas story and what Christ coming to Earth means for those who believe on Him and what His return might be like when He comes for His children. Some key scriptures: (Genesis 12, 15 and 18)
English	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 Cool Gregory and The Ice Palace and The wild Robot this term. In writing we will be focusing on the books Tar beach, Vermints, Farther and Until I met Dudley. The children will learn a range of GPS skills building up to retelling as a script, writing an explanation text and writing a sequel story.	Listen to your child read their home reading book at least 3 times a week and have discussions about the book with them, asking some of the VIPERS questions that was sent home with your child. Encourage your child to read different fiction texts for pleasure. Encourage your child to read other books by the same authors that we study in class.
Maths	This term we will be focusing on: Shape, where pupils will understand an identify different types of angles, explore triangles, quadrilaterals and polygons and find and complete lines of symmetry.	White Rose One Minute App Timetable Rock Star Numberblocks https://www.timestables.co.uk/



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	Place value, where pupils will explore the relative size of whole numbers building on concepts learnt in year 3, as well as counting in Ones, Tens and Hundreds where pupils will explore changes in numbers when counting on and backwards from any given number. We will also be learning about Perimeter and Multiplication with a focus on our 3, 6, 9 times tables. We will also focus on mental fluency where children will have many opportunities to cultivate their mental fluency in addition and subtraction, before moving onto formal writing methods.	Discuss what is the same and what is different about numbers. For example, what is the same and what is different between 4567 and 7654 https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/place-value
Science	This term our topics are digestion and electricity. In digestion, we will look investigate how our food is digested and the organs that help in the process. In electricity, we will look at where electricity comes from, the appliances that run on electricity, how circuits work and electrical conductors and insulators.	Encourage your child to read a range of non-fiction books based on digestion and electricity. This will give them an understanding of key vocabulary. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3E1txcKPe8 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syaGf_XUMxA&t=14s
History	This half term we will be focussing on the topic of Forceful Pharaohs . We will investigate Ancient Egypt and its civilization such as their earliest civilisations – Sumer, the Indus Valley and the Shang dynasty.	Research and write some paragraphs about Tutankhamen. Draw a picture of the pharaoh Tutankhamen beside your written work. https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/games/discover-ancient-egypt/discover-ancient-egypt/egyptian-tomb-adventure/
Geography	Next half term we will learn about Water with a focus The River Nile. We will develop our physical geographical knowledge by describing and understand the water cycle and use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area.	Use a map to locate the River Nile. Research some facts about The River Nile. Invest in some books about the River Nile. https://egypt.mrdonn.org/games.html
Art	This half term we will be using tone to create a 3D effect, and then we will work collaboratively to develop drawings into prints. Through this topic we will create several pencil tones, explore the effect of holding a pencil in different ways, use charcoal and rubber to show areas of light and dark in our drawings as well as demonstrate an awareness of the relative size of the objects we draw.	Provide your child with a range of materials such as pencil, charcoal, paint, clay and allow them to experiment with making different patterns. In this day and age, when many children seem to be glued to their screens, please encourage your child to draw at home as frequently as possible. Buying them a pack of felt tipped pens would be a wonderful idea!
Design and Technology	Next half term we will learn explore electrical systems with a specific focus on Torches. Through this topic we will identify electrical products and explain why they are useful. The children will also have the opportunity to help to make a working switch before creating a functioning torch with a switch according to their design criteria.	Encourage your child to explore how torches work.
Music	The children will be exploring improvisation, composition, and notation, inspired by Electronic Dance Music (EDM) from the late 1970s. Children can extend their improvisations, write notation, and apply	Year 4 Music - BBC Bitesize

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	essential compositional techniques, leading to a final composition and performance, combining both melodic and rhythmic elements. We will be learning basic instrumental skills by playing tunes in varying styles, Using scores/notation as well as learning various song for our Christmas Nativity.	
Physical Education	This half term the children will develop and improve their problem solving, leadership and team work skills in our outdoor adventurous activities. In outdoor PE, we will be improving their fitness ability. Through this topic they will be given opportunities to work at their maximum and improve their fitness levels through jumping, running and throwing. Our PE days are Wednesdays (Forest School) and Thursdays. After October half term, they are Thursdays and Fridays.	Instead of driving to school everyday, why not walk or cycle? Try to complete 10 minutes of physical activity at home each day, maybe they could ride to the park with you!
PSHE	Using the resources from Ten Ten Resources, our module is Created and Loved by God. It explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships.	https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-1/ltf-p_pp_lks2_1-1_religious-understanding/#s2 https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-2/ltf-p_pp_lks2_2-2_personal-relationships/#s1 https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-2/ltf-p_pp_lks2_2-2_personal-relationships/#s2 Talk with your child about how everyone is different and an individual.
French	Our topics this term are 'All Around Town' and 'On the Move?' In this 'All Around Town' unit, your child will learn to develop their intercultural understanding by being introduced to the sights of some typical French cities. They will also learn to describe places in a town, count to 100 and give their address in French. In the 'On the Move' unit, your child will learn to develop their conversational skills via some new topics: transport, direction and movement. They will learn to conjugate the high-frequency verb 'to go' and use it in context.	Encourage your child to practice at home, the French words and phrases that they learn in school
Computing	We will be studying Collaborative learning, the Internet Programming Scratch and Online Safety. Children will understand how to make a character move and how to change the screen and add special effects.	Encourage your child to discuss what networks are and how they works after our computing lessons on Mondays. Encourage your child to share their knowledge and understand how to keep themselves safe online.

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Summer uniform will continue to be worn for the remainder of this half term, until half term when children should return in their winter uniform. 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. Our email is Year4@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs R O'Connor- Reilly and Mrs J Allen
St Laura Montoya Class Teachers

