

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,

Year 5 Autumn Term Curriculum Letter

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 at home
Religious Education	This term we will be following our new scheme of learning. Our focus will be on the topics of Creation and Covenant and Prophecy and Promise . The children will be looking closely at stories from the Old Testament , such as the story of Moses , to gain a deeper understanding of God's relationship with His people and how His promises were revealed through prophets.	Read or watch simplified versions of Old Testament stories together (e.g. Moses and the Burning Bush, Moses leading the Israelites). Talk about the messages and promises found in these stories and what they mean for people of faith today. Discuss how these Old Testament promises connect with the coming of Jesus in the New Testament. Read through verses related to our themes at home from your Bible. Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration. Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent, e.g. an Advent wreath, calendar or Jesse tree. Use the CAFOD or Mission websites to find a religious Advent calendar. Reflect upon what makes your child special. Discuss respect and how to show it.
English	Book studies: Peace on Earth, Stormbreaker by Alex Rider, Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman . We will use a variety of reading skills, including retrieval and inference, and answer questions from the text. This will deepen our vocabulary and understanding of genres. Your child will have the opportunity to develop their writing skills through studying <i>The Man Who Walked Between 2 Towers</i> , <i>Robot Girl</i> , <i>Percy Jackson</i> and <i>Hidden Figures</i> .	Complete your homework weekly and practise spellings. Read regularly with your child and ask them questions about the book. Find out about modal verbs and why we use them. Pick out words from your reading book and find synonyms. Please use this website to help develop your child's understanding of English and grammar: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f Allow your children to develop their creative writing by writing a daily diary entry or their own creative narrative.
Maths	In Maths this term, we will focus on angles, decimal fractions, negative numbers, money, and short multiplication and division . These topics will build on the children's understanding of number and prepare them for more complex problem-solving.	Children will need to continue to practise their multiplication tables and be able to recall each fact within 6 seconds, from 1 x 1 to 12 x 12. Using TT Rockstars regularly will really help to increase their recall speed and confidence. Please also read our class Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) for Autumn 1 and 2. You can support your child at home by encouraging them to explain how they solved a problem and how they know their



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		answer is correct. This will help to deepen their reasoning and problem-solving skills.
Science	In Science this term, we will focus on mixtures and separation, and the properties and changes of materials . Children will explore how different materials can be mixed and separated, as well as investigate their properties and how some changes can be reversible or irreversible.	At home, you can explore different materials and discuss their properties, such as whether they are hard, soft, transparent, waterproof or magnetic. You could also help with making mixtures while cooking or baking and talking about whether changes are reversible or irreversible. Visit BBC Bitesize – Properties and Changes of Materials to watch videos and complete activities linked to our Science learning.
History	This term, we will be learning about Ancient Greece and exploring the question: “What did the Ancient Greeks contribute to the world and how do we still see their influence today?”	How you can help at home: Read non-fiction books or watch child-friendly documentaries about Ancient Greece to build background knowledge. Encourage your child to design and decorate their own Greek vase, temple, or even a shield using traditional Greek patterns and symbols. Visit a local museum (or explore an online virtual gallery) to see Greek artefacts and find out what they can teach us about life at the time.
Geography	In Geography this term, we will learn about mountain ranges, with a focus on the Alps and Innsbruck, Austria . We will explore what life is like in the Alps , including the climate and why people choose to visit.	How you can help at home: Look at a map or globe together to find the Alps and Innsbruck, Austria. Explore photographs, videos or online tours to discover what life is like in the Alps. Research some of the physical and human features of Innsbruck, such as its mountains, ski resorts and historic buildings. Cook or try some Austrian food together, such as apple strudel or schnitzel, to experience part of the region’s culture.
Art	In Art this term, Year 5 will complete the Year 5 Kapow unit, Drawing: I Need Space . They will develop their drawing skills by exploring line, tone, texture and shading, using space as inspiration for their artwork.	How you can help at home: Look at photographs of space, planets and astronauts for drawing inspiration. Practise sketching using different lines, patterns, shading and textures. Talk about how artists can use tone and colour to create a sense of light and shadow. Visit an art museum or gallery together to look at different styles of artwork and discuss the materials and techniques artists have used.
Design and Technology	In DT this term, we will be focusing on construction , with a particular emphasis on bridges . The children will learn about different types of bridges , how they are designed, and the importance of strength and stability in structures. They will then apply this knowledge to design, build and test their own bridge models.	How you can help at home: Look at different bridges in your local area or in pictures/books – talk about how they are built and what materials are used. Research some famous bridges around the world, such as Tower Bridge (London), the Golden Gate Bridge (San Francisco), or the Rio–Antirrio Bridge (Greece). Encourage your child to experiment with building small structures at home using materials like Lego, paper or cardboard.
Music	In Music this term, we will be learning to play the ukulele . The children will develop their skills in strumming, plucking and playing simple chords. They will also learn how to keep a steady beat, read basic notation, and play together as part of a group. This will help them build confidence, teamwork and performance skills.	Listen to songs that feature the ukulele and talk about how the instrument sounds compared to others. Clap along to music together to help with keeping in time and rhythm. Ask your child to show you the chords or tunes they are learning – performing to someone at home really boosts their confidence.

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Physical Education	In PE this term, the children will take part in a range of activities to build their fitness, skills and teamwork. They will focus on: Fitness OAA (Outdoor and Adventurous Activities) Swimming Yoga	Try to encourage your child to be active during the day. It is important that they stay healthy and fit as they are growing. Practise throwing and catching games with your child and let them teach you the yoga poses we learn in school! Ensure your child has their PE kit in school on Monday and Friday.
PSHE	This half term, we will be looking at how to regulate our emotions and coping methods to deal with stressful situations. We will also be learning some basic first aid.	Ask your child about their day. Make sure they are talking about their feelings and how they are coping with their schoolwork as they start in a new year group. Visit the 'Thinkuknow' website and discuss how to keep safe whilst using the internet. CEOP Education (thinkuknow.co.uk)
French	Bonjour – we will be revisiting the basics in French and learning common phrases we may need.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39 Watch a film using French subtitles. See if you notice any words. Practise with your child at home the French words and phrases that they learn in school.
Computing	Search Engines Programming Music Online Safety	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39 https://scratch.mit.edu/explore/projects/games/ Create your own music using Scratch at home.

Other information for the start of the year -

Our PE days are Tuesday (swimming) and Wednesday (Forest School).

Please ensure your child has their jumper, a coat/jacket and their water bottle in school every day.

Please check that all items of your child's uniform are labelled with their name and that they come to school dressed in accordance with our uniform policy. This includes black school shoes (no trainers) and hair accessories in school colours (blue, white or yellow).

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at year5@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk, or drop me a message on **Class Dojo**.

If you need an appointment with myself to discuss something in more detail, please contact the office and we can arrange a time that suits us both.

I look forward to working in partnership with you this term.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Ahmad

