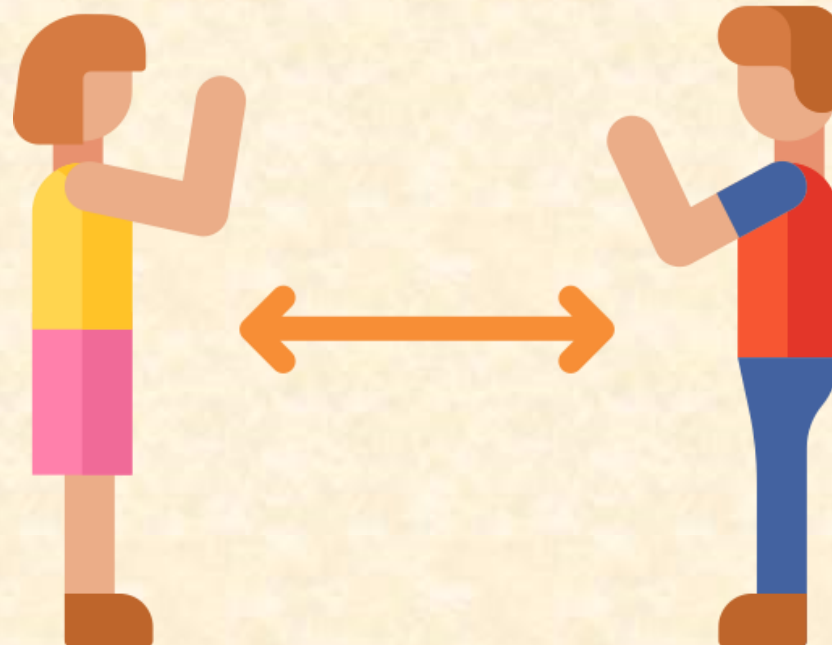


WELCOME TO

YEAR 4

St Paul and St Peter



WELCOME TO YEAR 4

Dear Families

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome you and the children back to a new academic year. The children appear to be settling down to a new year group, a new system of working and new adults teaching them.

Our expectation as a school and as teachers of year 4 is to provide our children with learning experiences that develop their spiritual, moral, physical and educational needs. We aim to develop the whole child with high quality tasks which meets the needs of the child.

We expect children to behave in a respectful and courteous manner to all staff and their peers.

We ask that you ensure that your child arrives at school on time each morning, as lateness, is disruptive, not only for them, but also for others in the class.

WELCOME

We endeavour to provide religious experiences and lessons which foster, deepen and enhance their love and understanding for the teachings of Jesus Christ and their faith on the whole.

We look forward to a working partnership with parents and carers and recognise that strong home school links contribute to the development of our children's learning in a very positive way.

Year 4 is an exciting academic year, where your child will learn new concepts and skills. Regular attendance is crucial to making progress. Please ensure that we keep absences to as much of a minimum as we can.

**KEEP SAFE, WASH HANDS AND REMEMBER THAT WE ARE
LOVED BY GOD.**



Rules, Rewards and Sanctions

Golden Rules



1. We follow instructions first time.
2. We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.
3. We show good manners and consideration to everyone, at all times.
4. We take responsibility for our own behavior.



ROUTINES

We aim to establish very clear routines with the children, so that their day to day learning experiences run smoothly.

- On entry every morning the children are encouraged to go to the toilet before they come into class and then when they do come in, they are to wash their hands, book their lunches and then settle to the work which will be on their table or silent sustained reading.
- The children are required to line up in a given order and to move around the school sensibly and without running.
- In class, children are required to remain seated at their tables and focused on their work.
- We discourage shouting out answers, laughing at the mistakes made by others or using unkind words or gestures.
- **OUR EXPECTATIONS AS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY ARE HIGH FOR YOUR CHILD, SO PLEASE SUPPORT US WITH THIS.**

LATENESS

As a school community we pride ourselves on working hard to ensure that all of our children get the best quality start in life through the foundation to their long term education which we set here at St Mary's.

**PERSISTANT LATENESS AFFECTS LEARNING
FUNDAMENTALLY FOR YOUR CHILD, BUT ALSO HAS AN
IMPACT ON THE OTHER CHILDREN IN THE CLASS.**

At St Mary's we start our learning in various ways as soon as the children enter the classroom. In most junior classes, this will mean setting up their books to be used for the morning lessons by writing in their learning objective, habit of mind and success criteria which are displayed on the IWB used for teaching. Persistant latecomers miss out on this part.

Religious Education

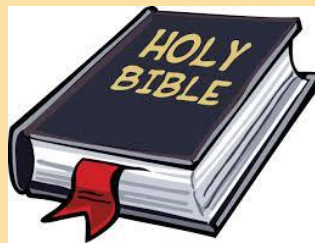
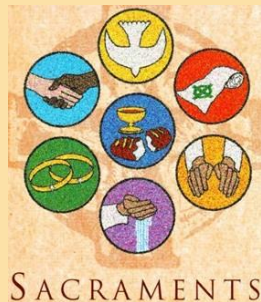
This term, we started with the topic 'Beginning with the God'.

We also have a unit of study of another faith- Judaism after the half term.

After the half term we then start our focus on the unit of study which is From Advent to Christmas.

We attend Mass regularly as a large school community, as well as having our year group mass. Our masses tie in with Holy days of Obligation as well as feast days. Please feel free to join us any morning when we attend mass.

Please support your child with deepening their understanding of the RE topics wherever you can.





Maths

In Numeracy, we will be using the New Government Curriculum and developing mental maths skills.

The topics that the children will be covering will be:

- Number- addition and subtraction
- Number- multiplication and division
- Number- fractions (including decimals)
- Measurement
- Geometry- properties of shape
- Geometry- position and direction
- Statistics



Your child needs to learn their multiplication and division facts on a daily basis so please encourage them to keep practising. This will greatly help with all areas of mathematics. They will be tested in June 2025.

NATIONAL MULTIPLICATION TEST FOR YEAR 4 PUPILS.

This is a new national test for all children in Y4. Your child will be the first year four group at St Mary's to sit this test.

The test is carried out online. A total of 25 multiplication questions (based on tables up to 12×12) are asked and the children have 6 seconds to answer them by typing in their answer.

In preparation for this we carry out in class teaching of all the times tables. Children will have booklets which they can complete during class registrations which will help towards learning and consolidating their tables.

Please help your child to learn all their tables at home in preparation for the test later in the year. Home and school revision is always beneficial and provides additional support that some children may need.

English

During this term our work in literacy lessons will focus on a range of genres including: Newspaper reports, play scripts, stories with familiar settings, stories from other cultures, character descriptions, diary entries, letter writing and poetry.

The children will be further developing their grammar work by using powerful description through adjectives, adverbs, connectives and similes and will also develop using more interesting sentence structures. In addition to this, we will introduce the use of metaphors to help enrich their descriptive writing.

This year, we will be working on developing a wider range of punctuation and to ensure it is used accurately within their written work.

Please encourage your child to learn their weekly spellings thoroughly by ensuring regular practice. Any extra work you can give to the children at home to support their learning would be very beneficial.

TARGETS

So far we have identified handwriting as a major area to be improved!

The vast majority of children are not forming their letters accurately.

When completing homework with them, please ensure that you encourage them to focus on the correct formation of individual letter

We shall be sending a handwriting practice booklet home with your child with their individual targets.

Reading

It is expected that your child reads for at least 20 minutes every night to an adult. Their reading record must be signed by the adult who has heard them read. Encourage your child to write a comment about what they have read and it is valuable if a parent makes a simple comment as well.

On the front and back covers back of your child's reading record a sheet has been attached which gives the objectives and questions for each Content Domain we use for comprehension work. Please use these when asking questions with your children during their reading.

Try to make time to model reading to your child and encourage your child to read a variety of text types. For example, reading instructions on how to play a game, following a recipe, information texts or reading a newspaper. The more the children read, the more confident and fluent they will become and wider their vocabulary will become also.

At certain points in the week, it may be necessary to keep reading records at school overnight to be signed by the class teacher or adult supporting reading.

READING QUESTION TIME

Developing a love for story through the reading and listening to a wide range of different story types should be nurtured and encouraged. Often, as parents listen to their children read they become unsure of what questions to ask next in order to engage their child with the text. Below you will find a few examples which you may find useful.

Describe the main character to me. How do you know?

What questions would you ask the character?

Can you compare this character to another?

What do you know about this character? How did you find this out?

Can you think of other words to describe the character?

Would you like this character as a friend?

What character interested you the most?

Can you compare this setting to another?

If you were the author would you change the character/setting?

Can you think of any other words to describe the character/setting?

Which character interested you most?

A FEW MORE SUGGESTIONS

Why did x do that?

What would you have done?

How would you describe him?

Which words tell us that?

Why has the author used print like that (bold, italic etc)?

Look at the illustration, how does she feel etc?

Are there any words you don't understand?

Who do you think the main character is?

What is the chapter/paragraph about?

What type of opening is that?

Is it effective? Explain

Describe the main character to me. How do you know?

Science

In Science, the topics we will be covering this year are: Electricity, States of matter, Animals including humans, Sound and Living things and their habitats. For each science topic the children will be carrying out investigations to develop their scientific enquiry skills. These are:



Planning an investigation

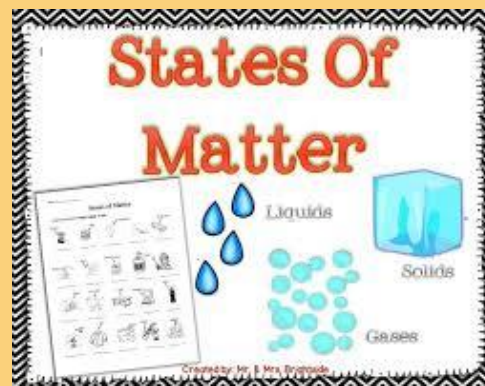
Recording using tables

Taking repeat readings

Developing graphing skills



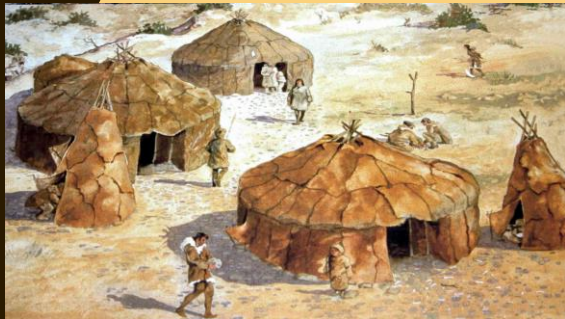
Danger Electricity



History-Stone Age

Children will find out about the way of life of people living in The Stone Age from archaeological discoveries. They will develop their understanding of the characteristic features of that society; identify the different ways the past is represented and use sources of information to make simple observations, inferences and deductions.

Children will be learning about the different periods in the Stone Age, historical language, tools and weapons, hunter-gatherers, where were they located, what food they used to have and how they got their food.



Physical Education.

At present, Year 4 have their PE lessons on a **Monday and Thursday**

Our school PE kit is

- a royal blue tracksuit bottom,
- royal blue sweatshirt,
- white t- shirt
- Plimsolls or black trainers. **NO MULTI COLOURED OR COLOURED TRAINERS**

Children should come to school wearing their full PE kit and **school shoes**. They will then change their footwear in school at the appropriate time for their lesson and then change back into their school shoes. At **NO TIME** will children be allowed to wear trainers during the school day.

Please work with us by ensuring that your child is wearing the **correct school issue** kit.

Girls should not be using/wearing cycling shorts.



ICT

This term, the children will be using the ICT sessions as well as in class sessions using the iPads to carry out planned and focused skills lessons, which will include a revision of word processing skills and onlinesafety

Art

Throughout the year the children will study artist and complete work in their artistic style. They will explore colours, line, texture and form in art using a range of media.

Please provide an old adult sized t-shirt or shirt which the children can use over their uniform when painting

Music

This year the children will continue having their music lessons with Mrs Jones each week. They will learn a variety of skills of which we know they will benefit from.

This terms focus will be: Pentatonic scale, Gospel music, off-beat, rhythm, call and response, timbre, tempo, dynamics, music from a film, creating music inspired by colour and art, rhythm, texture, graphic score

PSHE/RSE

At St Mary's we follow the Life to the Full programme for the teaching of both, Personal Social, Health and Economic education as well as Relationship and Sex education. This is a scheme used across Catholic schools.

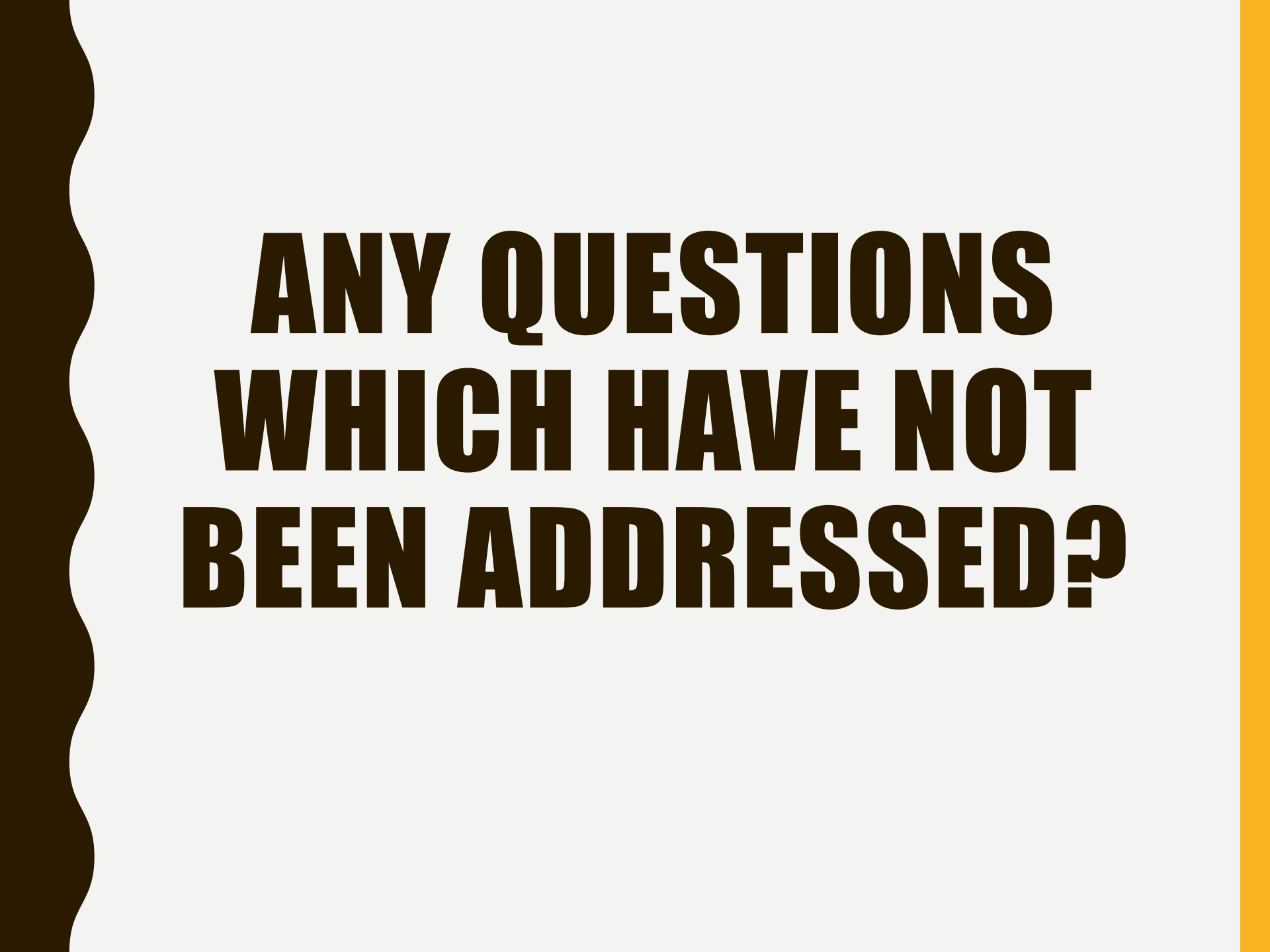
On the next slide you will see an outline of the topics covered across the entire year. One change to note is session 3, 4 and 5 in Module 1. This is taught in the summer term when the children are more suitably 'ready' to understand the topic concept.



Homework

- Homework is given out on a Tuesday and should be completed and returned to school on the Monday of the following week. so it can be marked. Homework will consist of Grammar work, comprehension exercise, spellings and maths.
- If you feel that there is a problem, please leave a note in your child's homework book. Please ensure that your child brings back the homework on time, as we often review homework with the children on the day that it is marked.
- RE homework will be given where required and may not necessarily be with the Literacy and Numeracy homework. Occasionally, children will be given Science homework or History homework.
- Please encourage and support your child with any homework they may have.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



**ANY QUESTIONS
WHICH HAVE NOT
BEEN ADDRESSED?**