## In Brief ...

## Other Subject Areas:

Our topics for the Spring Term are exciting and interesting! Before half term, children will use their **historical** skills to learn about mining in the local area. After half term, children will be learning about biomes of the world, building on their **geography** skills and knowledge.

The focus in  $\ensuremath{\text{PE}}$  this term is gymnastics and health related exercise.

In **computing**, we will be using Purple Mash to learn about 3D modelling and Microsoft Word.

In **science**, children will be learning about Living Things and their Habitats, finding out about flowering plants and life cycles of different animals.

In **art**, we are learning about monotypes, using printing skills to create one off pieces. In **D&T** after half term, our focus will be 3D structures.

In **music** children will continue to work with Mrs Cliffe on Thursday afternoons. They have exciting opportunities to work with Manchester Camerata and will be composing and performing their own pieces before performing at a concert with other schools.

The children will also continue to learn **French**, focusing on oral skills as well as writing simple words, phrases and sentences in French.

Please talk to your child at home about their learning in school :)

## Things to Note. . .

**PE** will be on a **Tuesday and Friday** . Please remind your child to

bring their kit to school on a Monday, where it should remain all

week.

Please ensure all items of your child's **PE Kit** and **school uniform** 

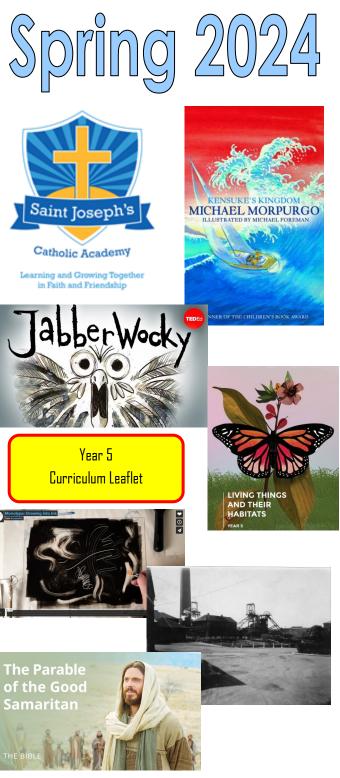
are <u>clearly named</u>.

## A Reminder of Home Learning Expectations

A reminder of your child's home learning:

- Reading each night and recording comments in Reading Log, checked in school on a Monday and Thursday.
- Learning weekly spellings. Dictations this term will be on a Friday, and new spellings will be handed out on the same day.
- 3. Four nightly fluency questions which will be marked as a class the following morning. These fluency questions will help to secure the basic operations as well as consolidate learning in the classroom.

In Year 5, children should be completing the above home learning independently, but please encourage/support your child where required.



	What are we learning?	Things I could do at home to support my child's learning.
English	During the Spring term, children will be reading and completing a range of writing based on the novel Kensuke's Kingdom, by Michael Morpurgo. This exciting children's book will introduce children to some new and ambitious vocabulary as well as stretch their imaginations and encourage independent narrative writing. After February half term, we will be doing some Performance Poetry, learning about the rhythm and intonation when reading poems. This will be done through 'nonsense' poetry, with The Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll a key poem. We will also look at autobiographical and biographical writing, focusing on some key figures in history.	Read often with your child, and read a variety of texts to encourage a love of reading. Please encourage children to write in their reading logs at home and write meaningful, relevant comments about what they have read specifically! Help them to fill this in, discuss the book with them where possible. Get children to read aloud to you to develop their confidence; this is particularly important as in our Performance Poetry unit of work, children will need to be fluent and confident to read aloud. Practise your child's spellings with them please. Spelling is a key area of the curriculum and practising little and often is important. There are a variety of different ways children can practise their spellings—using colour, pictures, sentences and pyramids are just a few! Encourage your child to think about their own autobiography! What would they write about their lives so far? Talk to them about their childhood perhaps if possible.
Maths	During the first half term, children will be continuing to build on their multiplication and division skills including the formal written method of long multiplication and short division. We then move on to study fractions including multiplying fractions and finding fractions of amounts. We then move on to understanding decimals up to 2 decimal places, and linking decimals and percentages to the fractions we already know. After half term, the focus moves to area and perimeter as well as touching on our understanding of different graphs and tables and how information can be presented.	Challenge your child to show you/teach you a new method they have learnt in school! This is a great way for children to secure their understanding of a method. As always, please continue to practice times tables with your child. This is vitally important as their times tables need to be secure, especially when learning about fractions in school. TIRS is a great tool for this. The BBC Bitesize website is also good o go alongside the learning we are doing in class: http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/ The site has opportunities to read and learn about a topic, before playing games and taking quizzes to check their understanding. With our fractions, decimals and percentages topic specifically, try and incorporate fractions in to everyday life and get children to recognise when they are using fractions and decimals outside of the classroom.
RE	In Spring 1, children will be starting the new year consolidating and building on their knowledge of the Christmas story, so we will be looking at the journey of the Holy Family as well as considering the Christmas story from other points of view. After this, we look at some of the Parables and Sayings of Jesus and what we can learn from them. After half term, Lent is a time for preparation as we learn about Holy Week and Easter.	Provide children with a space in your home for private prayer or reflection. This may be in their bedroom or another safe, quiet and private space. Consider a family prayer basket. Ask children about what they have been learning about in school. Ask them to tell you any prayers they have learnt and discuss the meaning of these. Encourage children to make up their own prayers. When possible, attend Sunday Mass to continue to build on your child's understanding of their Faith. Discuss some of Jesus' parables with your child. What can we learn from them?