



**St Catherine's School**  
Haslewood Avenue  
Hoddesdon  
Hertfordshire  
EN11 8HT  
**Acting Headteacher:**  
Mrs Devonshire

## **Curriculum Information Newsletter – Year 4** **Autumn Term – 2023**

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school after the Summer break. We hope you and your children are looking forward to the exciting learning opportunities that we have in store for this Autumn Term.

As you may already know, we have a topic focus each term, which guides our learning. This term, the focus will be on All About Me.

### **English**

This term the children will be writing for a range of purposes, developing literacy skills that can be applied not only in English specific lessons but also during guided reading and topic lessons too. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will be also be a focus throughout the year, with specific lessons targeting these aspects. To begin with, the children will explore the book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker, broadening their vocabulary and practising their use of language features such as adverbial phrases, conjunctions and noun phrases. The children will also have the opportunity to immerse themselves in their own journey, through a portal, taking them to places (imaginary and real) that they'd like to explore. We will also be creating recounts of these journeys to share with other children within school. Later on this term we will be finding out about Greek myths and writing about mythical creatures, which will link to our topic work in History.

### **Maths**

We are continuing to use our Maths No Problem scheme this year to teach and deepen mathematical understanding across the school.

Year 4 will cover numbers to 10,000, the four operations, graphs, fractions and time.

All children in are expected to know their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of year 4, ready for their government Multiplication Tables Check in the Summer term. We strongly encourage children to log on to TT Rockstars as much as possible. Children are also expected to complete their weekly maths homework, which is set on TT rock stars every Friday.

### **Science**

During our science lessons we will be learning about animals including humans and the digestive system. We will be looking at different diets, animal and human teeth and food chains. We have some fun investigations and lessons planned!

### **Topic**

In our topic lessons after half term our focus will be The Ancient Greeks (linked to All About Me). We will be covering a wide range of information by asking some important questions to encourage the children to use investigation skills and their curiosity. Who were the Greeks and when did they live? What did the Greeks believe? How was Ancient Greece governed? Did the Ancient Greeks give us democracy? How do Greek philosophers influence us today? What did the Greeks do for us?



Let your light shine



## **RE**

This term, we are learning about Christianity and thinking about the creation story. We will focus on the key question of 'What do Christians learn from the creation story?' Later on, we will also be thinking about incarnation and the different beliefs within the faiths.

## **Computing**

This year, we are continuing to use the Purple Mash scheme and parents are reminded that the children are welcome to practice using this at home. We will be looking at coding, online safety, spreadsheets, creating logos and animations.

## **Art/DT**

In our first half term our art theme will be 'Power Prints' where we will be learning about proportion and positioning in pieces of art, leading onto the techniques used in printing. Our design and technology lessons will be on pavilions, investigating structures, then designing and making their own pavilion.

## **Homework**

Homework will consist of spelling, reading at home and times tables.

Spelling homework will be based around a weekly spelling pattern/rule. The homework will be set every Friday on Google Classroom and must be completed. The children will write out a short dictation which will include words using the week's pattern/rule and this will take place on the following Thursday.

Maths homework is linked to times tables and set through Times Tables Rock stars; details to follow. We expect children to be proactive in learning all their times tables up to 12x12 until they know them fluently, including division facts and missing number questions.

Additionally, we expect children to read an appropriate level book as often as possible each week to an adult for approximately 15 minutes per session. Please record this in your child's reading record. Please use this reading record to communicate with the class teacher if you have any queries about homework or any other pieces of work. We have a selection of enticing books in our school library, which the children are encouraged to borrow. They can take these home but please make sure they have them in school every day, as we will give them as many opportunities to read for pleasure as possible. The class teacher will ensure children are reading the appropriate level book.

## **PE**

Swimming will continue in September and take place every Wednesday morning. We will also be doing PE every Thursday afternoon. We will be covering a range of gymnastic skills and activities in the first part of the term, moving onto agility and strength.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us through the School Office.

Many thanks for your support,

**Mrs Jaggs Mrs Sales Miss George**