

Literacy

This half term we will be using the theme of Family to focus upon the children's literacy skills. A link will also be made to our History topic and we will be using Ian Wallace's *Boy of the Deeps* as a stimulus for our writing.

We will cover:

- descriptive writing (word classes and writing from perspectives)
- explanation texts

We will be focusing on:

- descriptive language
- use of punctuation
- paragraphing and sentence structure
- handwriting and presentation skills



YEAR 3/4- Autumn 1 Family

Reading

This half term we will be reading *Boy of the Deeps* by Ian Wallace.

Other literature linking to our local history topic of coal-mining and our Family theme will be made available to children including: *Candle Dark* and *Digging a Hole to Heaven*.

R.E.

This half term is the Domestic Church where we will be looking at and understanding God's vision for every family. Alongside this we will be exploring the family of God in scripture. Following on from this topic we shall be exploring the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

Spelling

Spelling work will be completed throughout the year covering key spelling rules and patterns for our year group. Spellings will be handed out on a Monday and tested on Fridays.

Science

This half term we will be studying Rocks and Soils. Children will:

- Identify the different types of rock
- Handle and examine rocks to identify their properties, with support
- Learn the four different types of matter that soil is composed of
- Make observations
- Take part and contribute to an oral presentation of their observations.

Numeracy

This half term pupils will be focusing on:

- Counting in multiples of 6,7, 9, 25 and 1000.
- Find 1000 more or less than a given number.
- Rounding any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.
- Order and compare numbers beyond 1000.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a three and four-digit number.
- Add and subtracting numbers up to 4 digits using formal written methods.
- Multiply 2 and 3 digit numbers by 1 digit.

Grammar and Punctuation

Spelling, grammar and punctuation (SPAG) will be covered in our basic skills lessons. We will begin by recapping demarcating sentences correctly using capital letters and punctuation. We will then look at noun phrases expanded by adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases.

Humanities

This term we will be looking at local history, focussing upon the Rising Sun Country Park (past and present), within our local area. We will be considering the effects of change and the consequences of these upon the local families and community.

P.E.

Indoor-Monday, Outdoor- Tuesday
The children will continue to develop skilful attacking, defending and team play through Basketball. In a range of games, children think about how to use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition as well as ball skills. Children will develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through Cheerleading. They will perform using a range of movement patterns.

FRENCH

This half term we shall be focussing on 'Ma Famille' topic, learning all about members of the family including learning to converse with one another about our family members. We will also learn French numbers to 30 and a range of colours.

PSHCE

This half term we shall focus on the "New Beginnings" unit of the SEAL programme. In this area of SEAL, children will be encouraged to take new roles in groups, they will be taught to appreciate the thoughts and feelings of others, recognise themselves and others as being special, recognise the need for rules and that different rules apply in different contexts, understand their rights and responsibilities, recognise and manage their feelings in new situations and recognise themselves as being part of a community and family.



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Extra Curricular Opportunities

There are a variety of extra curricular activities for children at St Bernadette's. Please check our website to see an up to date list of what is currently being offered.

Useful websites

Maths activities (including times tables)

www.topmarks.co.uk

Rocks & Soils

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/materials/rocks_soils/read/1/

SPAG

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

COMPUTING

We will begin this half term with a unit titled 'Real Life Algorithms'. Children will use logical reasoning to understand how algorithms in the real world work. They will create flow diagrams that illustrate the algorithms for these systems, convert this into code. Therefore, children will be designing, creating and debugging a range of software and programmes.

Educational visits and outdoor learning

This half term, to link in our Mining theme, we are planning a trip to Woodhorn Colliery.

Art / DT

Within art we will be looking at the artist George Seurat using the technique of Pointillism. We will incorporate this with our work using pictures from the author and illustrator Ian Wallace. Within DT we will be making a miner's 'piece' (food to be eaten down the mine!)

Homework

Homework (Literacy, Numeracy or reading tasks) will be sent out on a Thursday-consolidating class work throughout the week, so any problems can be addressed before the weekend! All homework should be completed by Tuesday and brought into school.

Please ensure that your child's reading is recorded in their reading record books and signed by you.