



St. Basil's

Catholic Primary School

"We love, learn and succeed following Jesus"

MAY 2024

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Monthly Curriculum Newsletter



Preschool and FSAR

Wow! What a month May has been! This month, we have been super busy! EYFS have been continuing the theme of 'Our World'. We have learnt lots of different facts about dinosaurs and what the world might have looked like then. In our roleplay area, the children have enjoyed tracing sea creatures. They have also sketched each sea creature they have seen to hang up in our roleplay area. This week, our roleplay area has been under construction with a Dinosaur Museum pending! We are so excited!

In English, the children have continued reading and learning about 'Clem and Crab' by Fiona Lumbers. We have been using the litter pickers in the outdoor area to pick up any rubbish and pop it in the correct bin. We have all now written a short letter to inform everybody about the importance of recycling. We have been working on using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. The children are doing amazing. The staff in EYFS are super proud!

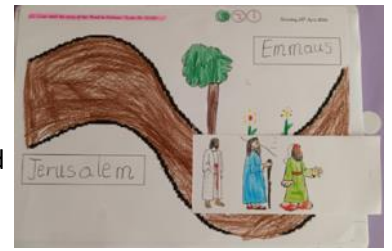
In Maths, we have been learning all about odd and even numbers. The children have designed odd and even streets, learnt new songs about odd and even numbers and designed odd and even monsters! It has been so much fun! The children in EYFS have also been learning about fair groups. They have mostly enjoyed sharing treats between small groups. We even got to eat them at the end! So yummy!

In RE, our theme has been 'To the Ends of the Earth'. We have had lots of discussions about treasured memories. The children had time to reflect on any treasured memories they may have and want to share. We have also learnt all about Jesus going back to his Father in heaven. This month, we have celebrated the birthday of the Church. FSAR have made special Church birthday cards to celebrate Pentecost Day. We have also been thinking about different ways that we can show that we care. We have come up with lots of ideas! We are showing we care like Shristi bear!

We are super excited to come back to school in June after the break. We will be opening some new roleplay areas in our outdoor area too! We are most excited for the beach shop, car wash and garden centre!

Year 1 have had a phonics filled half term! We have been working very hard practising reading the sounds that we know in words. All our hard work is helping us to prepare for our Phonics Screening after half term. We have even been doing phonics at home thanks to the help of our families. We hope to continue this with our Monster booklet to keep our phonics hats on during half term!

In RE we have been discovering some items in our special golden box which have given us some clues to new stories from the Bible. Firstly, we found out about the 'Road to Emmaus' when Jesus appeared to others after his Resurrection. We loved making a sliding picture to help us remember this story!



Then we learnt about when Jesus went back to his Father in heaven on Ascension Day. We are now finishing the topic with the amazing story of Pentecost, which is when the Holy Spirit was sent to be a helper and guide to the Apostles. Artwork, singing and drama is helping us to bring this all to life as we understand the importance of this event as the Birthday of the Church. We know that Christians continue to spread the good news today, hundred of years later, by living good lives and following the rules of Jesus.

Our work on the text 'Somebody swallowed Stanley' has continued in English. Linked to this story we have been able to find out about ways that we can all help to reduce plastic in our oceans and have made our own pledges. We are looking forward to finding out what happens at the end of the story now and then creating fact files for different ocean creatures. In Reading we have been enjoying a brilliant text called 'Meet the Planets' by Carly Hart. The book has taught us lots of new facts that we didn't already know.

In Maths we have been working hard on multiplying numbers. We are learning to count and recall our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We are beginning to look at calculating multiplication questions ourselves using arrays. After half term we will be diving into some division and how we can share numbers into equal groups.



We have been working hard in our History topic all about Beeston Castle and enhanced our learning through our fabulous trip to visit the castle a few weeks ago. We loved exploring the grounds, learning from our guide, Simon about the life of a knight, and climbing to the top of the hill to see the ruins properly, as well as the amazing views!

We even did some cloud spotting at the top of the hill and imagined how the Apostles felt when Jesus went up into the clouds on Ascension Day.

In Science we been looking at animal habitats. First, we explored the different habitats around the world including the ocean. We then looked closely at micro-habitats and the animals living in these places. We discovered that insects lived in micro-habitats and went on a mini-beast hunt around school to see what we could find. There were lots of different insects around school but the one that we found the most of was ants. In PE we have been learning all about the sports of football and rounders.

For Personal Development (PD), we have done further work on being healthy and specifically talking about personal hygiene and what this involves.

We had a visit from Altru Drama group and enjoyed a performance which gave really important messages about dealing with our feelings and mental health.

We also took part in a special Zumba session last week which was great fun!

Finally, we have been working hard in every subject and lesson on our handwriting. We are trying really hard to make sure our letters are the correct size and shape. This is something we have been taking lots of pride in every day.

Year 2

We are currently reading a wonderful book called 'Tidy' for our environmental topic. The children will finish this unit by writing a persuasive letter highlighting the importance of keeping our environment clean and litter-free. We will then be moving on to our Poetry topic.

In Maths we have been learning all about fractions. The children have learned how to recognise and find halves, quarters and thirds of a shape/amount. Our next maths topic after half term will be 'Time'.

Our current R.E topic is 'To the End of the Earth'. During this topic we have been learning all about the resurrection, St Luke's Gospel teachings and the conversion of Saul.

In Science we are learning about the four Seasons here in the UK and we will be completing some comparison work focusing on the seasons around the world.

In History we are finishing our topic on The Great Fire of Nantwich. The children thoroughly enjoyed their school trip to Nantwich and have loved learning all about the fire and the history of a local area.

Well done for your hard work Year 2, keep it up!



Year 3

In May, Year 3 have had an exciting month including our first overnight residential to the Catalyst Museum. Everyone had a great time and campout right at the top in the observatory. We learnt all about the history of the building as a soap factory and even made our own soap to take home. The next morning we all took part in a Science show about light.

We have also continued our English focus on Rivers, we have learnt all about significant rivers around the world including the Nile, the Amazon, and the Yangtze. We have created a fictional river in our home town and planned a persuasive information poster to encourage people to come and enjoy the river.

In Maths we have worked hard on using fractions, adding and subtracting unit fractions and finding fractions of amounts. We have also used money, converting pounds and pence, adding and subtracting and finding change.

In our History work on British Railways we have learnt all about George Stephenson's advances in the Industrial Revolution and the creation of the Rocket in Rainhill. We have discovered that not everyone was happy with the rail advancements, including Charles Dickens who was in a train crash and never supported the railways afterwards.

In Science we have explored sound, how sound is made on a range of musical instruments, sound hunts around school and how pitch and volume is changed.

Year 4

We cannot believe we are nearly in our final half term already!

In English, we have been reading a book called 'Alba the 100 Year Old Fish' and have been learning about the devastating impact of plastic pollution. From reading the book and our own research, we have designed an information leaflet to explain to people the dangers of plastic and how we can help our environment.

In Maths, we have been learning about decimals and have applied this to our new topic of money. We have enjoyed taking part in active maths scavenger hunts to answer a variety of questions and learning about how we use decimals in our everyday lives.

In Science, we have been learning about sound and went on a sound hunt around the school. We have learnt how sound travels and how we are able to hear.

In History, we have been learning about different locomotives and how they have impacted our transport today.

In Art, we have been using textiles and are in the middle of creating a collective sea. Each of us has sketched a sea creature and is going to use collage with different materials to decorate it.

In Personal Development, we have been learning about the importance of staying healthy and how we can do this. On Friday, we took part in a Zumba afternoon which we really enjoyed to show how physical activity impacts our physical and mental health. We are so excited to see what the final few months of Year 4 bring for us!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a busy half term. We have been reading the book called The Brilliant Deep in English. Through reading this book we have learned all about Ken Nedimyer. We also learned about coral beaching and how it impacts the oceans.

In P.E we have been doing netball. We have learned the rules and the different passes. We have played games against each other in small teams then moved on to a class game.

In our Geography we have been looking at Life Around the Mersey. We have used digital to explore our local area and measure how far it has grown. We were shocked to discover that our school was not on the map in 1950.

For Mental Health Awareness Week we learned all about the importance of exercise for our mental health. We also did some Zumba and yoga.



At the beginning of May we lead a class Collective Worship for our parents about Pentecost. We worked very hard to prepare it and loved delivering it to our parents and Year 4.

This week was very exciting. We had a Collective Worship where Mary the Queen of Heaven was crowned. We thought the worship was beautiful and we will remember it forever!



Year 6

Maths: In maths we have been learning how to measure and classify angles and how to calculate vertically opposite angles. On Thursday we learnt how to calculate angles in triangles. If you add all of the angles in a triangle it must equal 180° . To do this you have to use a protractor which is a piece of equipment that measures angles.

English: In our last lesson we wrote an information text about the Yangtze river. This is the largest river in Asia. Recently we have been focussing our work on plastic pollution. Our books include Greta's story and Plastic Planet. We learnt how Greta campaigned for climate change.

PE: In PE we learnt about different types of cricket such as diamond cricket and fast cricket. We have learnt different skills and tactics like hitting the ball with a bat and catching.

Science: In May we learnt how to label parts of an eye known as the cornea, sclera, pupil, iris, retina, lens and optic nerve. We wrote the definition for each part of the eye.

SATS: During SATS we learnt not to be worried about the tests and that you need to try your best and never give up. In the afternoon we revised for the test coming up the next day. Each morning we looked through our revision books, ate our breakfast and relaxed ourselves for the test.

Guided reading: In guided reading we are reading a story called Macbeth and have also answered questions about the story.

Spelling: We are learning about the suffixes ent, ency, and tion.

Personal Development: In PD we are learning about how to overcome our fears and about difference.

Geography: In geography we are learning about human impact. We have been making a poster about deforestation, the burning of fossil fuels and plastic pollution. We learned about the Great Pacific Garbage patch and how it was created.

RE: In RE we're learning about the Good Samaritan. This is a story about a man who got mugged and stripped, a priest and a Levite walked past him. The only person that helped him was the good Samaritan.

Written by Ruby, Ezmae, Freya and Matthew