



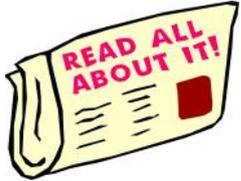
St. Basil's

Catholic Primary School

"We love, learn and succeed following Jesus"

APRIL 2024

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Monthly Curriculum Newsletter



Pre School and FSAR

What an amazing April we have had in EYFS! This month, we have celebrated Earth Day and St George's Day. The children have learnt all about the features of the Earth and decorated their own globe using a range of different creative materials! To celebrate St George's Day, EYFS have made their own shield to take home, we had so much fun mixing paints to make different colours for our unique shields. The children re-told the story in our outdoor area dressed as dragons, princess' and St George himself!

Our Understanding the World theme has been 'Our World'. The children have been learning all about dinosaurs and under the sea. In our roleplay area, we have our very own submarine which the children have all experienced! We have spotted lots of different sea creatures through the windows of our submarine, our favourite sea creature is currently a jellyfish! We have had lots of different types of dinosaurs to explore in our small world area. The children have enjoyed learning about the different types of dinosaurs there once were. We definitely have some palaeontologists in the making in EYFS! We have also learnt how to say 'hello' in lots of different languages. We have learnt a song to help us remember!

In English, we are currently reading 'Clem and Crab' by Fiona Lumbers. The children have learnt all about the importance of recycling and what we should do with litter to protect all animals and the Earth. We have also learnt all about aquariums and what they are for. Reception are currently working on writing sentences to describe Clem's feelings when she seen that the beautiful beach was full of litter! We have learnt lots of new digraphs in phonics. The children working super hard, trying to include our new sounds in their work. This week, we are gathering our ideas so that we can write a small letter to everybody in St Basil's to inform them of the importance of recycling. We have even opened our own roleplay recycling centre in our outdoor area! The children have been sorting through materials and putting them into the correct bins.

In Maths, we have been learning all about numbers up to 20. The children have been working very hard to count fluently to 20 independently! We have also been looking at 'one more' and 'one less' and counting backwards! The children have enjoyed using number tracks to figure out one more and one less. We have also been using tens frames to represent teen numbers. In Reception, the children have been learning the song '10 in the bed' to help us count down from 10 fluently. In Preschool, the children have been learning lots of different number rhymes, their favourite is currently '10 green bottles'.

In RE, FSAR have continued their learning all about the Easter story. We have made a class 'Easter Garden' to help us remember the importance of Easter. This half term, we have joined Year 1 and Year 2 for Collective Worship. FSAR have enjoyed learning new hymns with the other children in Key Stage 1. This week, we have discussed how Jesus has left us with treasured memories in the Bible. We have spoken about any treasured memories that we have ourselves. Our new RE theme is 'To the Ends of the Earth'. We are super excited to continue our learning through May! We are always excited to see what has been left inside of our Golden Box to help us with our learning.

A big 'Well Done' to all of the children is EYFS, keep being superstars!

Year 1

After our Easter break, Year 1 have continued our learning journey together, including some exciting new topics. In English, after finishing writing and publishing our 'Beegu' stories, we have been thrilled to start a new text, 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' by Sarah Roberts. So far, we have been investigating different types of sea creatures and have made a prediction about what kind of creature we think Stanley is. We will be discovering more of the story each week and also using non-fiction texts to help us too.



In maths we have just completed our place value unit all about numbers to 50 and have been using tens and ones in lots of different ways. We have learnt how to carefully partition a two-digit number and represent it correctly using different types of equipment. To show our understanding, we have then worked on problem solving challenges to prove what we know. We are now starting our multiplication and division unit where we are practising counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Our RE theme this half term is called 'To the Ends of the Earth'. We have been thinking about Bible stories that we know, building up a sequence of events that happened in the lifetime of Jesus to create a timeline. We are looking forward to learning about some new stories of events which happened soon after Jesus died and why these are important for Christians living their lives today. We are enjoying lots of creative ways to explore and retell the stories, including art, role play and music.

In Personal Development (PD), we continue to share stories which have really important messages for us. These are great for class discussions and valuing everybody's opinion and thoughts. We have also been learning about how to be healthy – both physically and mentally. In history we have started our learning on castles. We have explored when different castles were built and the features of a castle. We are going to be looking at the features of a castle that were used to protect the castle and those inside. We are

looking forward to visiting Beeston Castle as part of our learning. In science we have continued our learning on animals. We are now looking at the different habitats that animals live in.

Finally, we have been loving our PE lessons focusing on the sports of rounders and football this half term. Although some people felt a little nervous to try new sports, it has been great to see everybody building confidence and developing skills already. Hopefully we will be able to go outside more with the warmer weather coming!



Year 2

We have just finished our 'My Name is not Refugee' text with the children writing their own diary entry, imagining what it would feel like to be a refugee and the challenges they might face having to travel to a different country. We are now starting our environmental topic with a lovely text called 'Tidy'. This text is all about the environment, bringing awareness of why it is so important to protect our forests and wild-life around us.

In maths we have been learning all about measurement. We have covered, length, weight, mass and temperature. The children have had the opportunity to do lots of practical maths and certainly enjoyed our volume lesson where they practiced measuring out different volumes of liquids into various containers.

Our current R.E topic is 'To the End of the Earth'. During this topic we have been learning all about the Ascension. The children have really enjoyed doing some art work and moving pictures depicting Jesus' rising.

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 learning all about the Great Fire of Nantwich. The children will learn all about how the fire started and the damage it caused in preparation for our school trip to Nantwich in May.

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



Year 3

In Year Three, we have had a wonderful April. It has been fantastic to see all the children apply themselves to their learning in school and on trips!

In RE, we have shared our love of God through learning about New Life. The children have explored a variety of scripture including the story of Philip and the Ethiopian. The children are thoroughly enjoying planning and practicing in class and phase Collective Worships.

Our English topic this half term is based on the non-fiction text 'Amazing Rivers' by Julie Vosburgh Agnone. The children have researched and presented fantastic facts to their class. The children have continued to develop their writing using adverbs to express time and manner.

Within Maths, the children have been learning about measurement; how to measure volume and weigh mass. They have continued to build upon their knowledge of mathematical facts through Fast Maths and Maths Meeting sessions with a focus on fractions and multiplication facts.

scavenger hunt explaining the main events in the history of early rail travel on a timeline. They are beginning to learn about the Industrial Revolution and the Victorian Era.

In Science the children are learning about sound and the big question 'How do we hear?' The children can identify and describe sound sources around school and can explain how sources of sound vibrate, creating sound. Children have researched why sound travels faster through solids and liquids, than gases.

Year 4

This month we have been learning about decimals in maths and making links with fractions. We have used counters to partition decimal numbers and used other resources to help us. In English we have been reading the text, 'Alba, The hundred year old fish'. We have learned about plastic pollution and the effects it has on our oceans and how we can help to stop and reduce it. In guided reading we have been reading 'Fantastically great women who saved the planet' We have read lots of different true stories of how different woman have helped the environment and make the world a better place. In science we went outside to do a sound hunt and focussed on what sounds we could hear and recorded our findings. We went on a scavenger hunt around school in history to retrieve and record information about locomotives. In RE we have focussed on the 'New Life' topic and we have planned and delivered collective worships based on this. We have enjoyed doing daily collective worships as it makes us feel closer to God. In PE we have learning new skills in Netball/Basketball and cricket. We know each sport will help improve our throwing and catching. We were also lucky enough to on a residential to Tattenhall in Chester. We took part in lots of exciting outdoor adventurous activities like rock climbing (but on a tree), zip wires, low rope obstacle courses and trim trails, as well as orienteering. Mrs Sheppard and Sarah also visited us and taught us some really fun camp fire songs which we all loved singing around a fire.

Year 5

I enjoyed in English learning about Malala Yousafzai because I like listening about her story and how she changed the world.

In PE I am really enjoying cricket with Mr Gallimore and netball with Mr Ward. In cricket my favourite part is were we use all of our skills and get split into 2 teams (fielding and hitting)

Last week visitors from Peace Pathways came into our class to speak about resolving conflict and any arguments we might have in the school week. We played some fun games linked to conflict.

Written by Lukie (Y5)

I enjoyed learning about Malala Yousafzai because it was interesting learning about her life. This morning we are going to silent <ass. We have had Peace Pathways in school to talk about peer mediators.

On Fridays after lunch we have assembly's about Britain by Mrs O'Donnell.

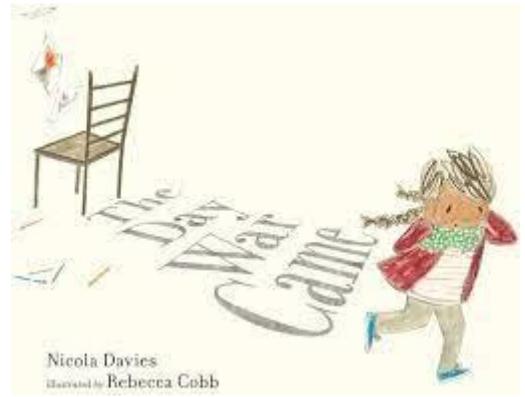
Written by Cody (Y5)

I enjoyed in English Malala Yousafzai and how she has written books that have been turned into films. And how she has survived a shooting. This morning we are going to Mass in church and we will be saying the Hail Mary and other prayers. In Maths we have been learning about all the different types of angles.

Written by Ollie (Y5)

Year 6

In our English lessons, we have been finishing our text 'The day the war came' by Nicola Davies. We have finished writing and editing out letters about refugees. Some people wrote to an MP, other children wrote to Year 6 pupils. Currently, we are reading the texts 'Plastic Planet' and 'Greta's story'. Greta is a 15 year old who protested to stop climate change.



In maths we have been learning how to find the area of triangles and the area of parallelograms. For a triangle you multiply the base by the height and divide by two.

In our RE topic, we were discussing what witnesses were. We also debated the statement 'Is it good to always be a witness?'. We also learnt that the disciples were Jesus' witnesses.

Our previous topic in science was how to maintain a healthy body. We have drawn a graph to show the results of an experiment we did to show how our heart rate changes after one minute of exercise, two minutes and then three minutes. We are now moving onto the topic of light.

In Personal Development we have been learning about mental health and how to keep it healthy and the effects of having poor mental health. We have also been learning about British Values and what democracy means. Democracy was the ancient Greek word for 'ruled by the people'.

In our Judaism afternoon we have learnt about some of the stories, places of worship, Jewish festivals, belongings, values and special foods. In our Islam afternoon we learnt about the five pillars of Islam, belongings, values and important festivals.

In our Easter Mass we learnt about the resurrection of Jesus and the sang some hymns about Easter. We also went to the church and listened to the Gospel readings. Year 5 and 6 also took their Holy Communion. Some children took a blessing.

In May year 6 are having their SATs. We have been working extremely hard revising. We have been having booster club on Mondays until 4pm. We are all looking forward to finishing our SATs.

Written by Sierra, Harley and Roxanne