

However, we will occasionally have PE activities outside of these times and so it is essential that children keep their PE kits in school every day. PE kit consists of blue shorts/dark tracksuit bottoms, a coloured house t-shirt, pumps and trainers. Long hair must be tied back and no jewellery should be worn for PE. Therefore, if your child wears earrings, please ensure that these are not worn on PE days.

Important meetings

Please keep your eye on the School's newsletter that comes out every two weeks for dates and times of meetings about residential and SATs.

Class Celebration of the Word – see newsletter for details of these.

Our 'Golden Rules'

At St. George's we expect all children to be well behaved and ready to learn. Remember that each new term is a fresh start. Here is a reminder of our school rules so that you know what we expect from pupils.

- Treat other people how you would like to be treated.
- Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- Always do as you are told straight away.
- Play your part in keeping our school clean and tidy.
- If you have nothing nice to say – say nothing at all.
- Respect other people and their property.
- Walk around school quietly, on the left and in single file.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Mr Holmes & Miss Clarke with Mrs Pegg (Class 10)
Mrs Shooter & Miss Ball with Mr Able-White (Class 11)
Mrs O'Brien & Miss Adams with Mr Coupland (Class 12)



Upper Juniors Lent Term **Curriculum Letter** **2024/25**

Welcome!

Happy New Year everybody! We trust you have had a happy and healthy Christmas and are refreshed and ready to thrust, full steam ahead, into this term's learning, beginning with STEAM week. In the next stage of our year, we will be consolidating and deepening our learning from last term across all areas of the curriculum, which, as you know, is in line with our cognitive load theory-based approach to learning.

Homework

Homework will continue to be set on a weekly basis. It will be set on a Monday and collected in on the Friday. There will be reading and a piece of Maths and Literacy/Topic work to complete. We expect everyone to complete their homework on time and in their own handwriting. If there is anything that pupils do not understand, they should first ask an adult at home for help and then ask their teacher for help before Friday!

Spellings

Learning spellings is very important in order for children to become confident writers, therefore we expect all pupils to revisit and learn their Year 5/6 spellings, which are in the front of their homework book. We understand that some pupils may struggle more than others with spellings, and we do not expect pupils to always get every single spelling right. Extra support will always be on hand and spelling sessions are tailored to the children's needs. Children should also be taking home their spelling books in which they record further words that they need to learn, because they have struggled with spelling them during the week.

Reading

Talk for Reading continues to have a huge impact on the enjoyment of reading. Children are also able to answer more in-depth questions based on what they have read.

In Advent, we successfully implemented our new Reading scheme – Accelerated Reader (which has replaced Book Blog). This is used in addition to whole class reading sessions, guided reading and the teacher reading the class novel. Your child will have a reading book for school and one for home and be able to quiz these at home too. Their log in details and ZPD (reading level range) can be found in the back of their reading diary.

The children love being read to and we make sure that we do that EVERY DAY! In addition to reading in school, we expect every child to read at home to an adult **daily**. We do not want any of our children to fall behind with their reading, so it is vital that parents (or grandmas, granddads, older brothers/sisters) hear children read and ask questions about their book on a regular basis. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your co-operation with this for those of you who take the time to do it. Could I request that parents who don't read on a regular basis with your children, that you do so. It is such a powerful thing to be able to do with them.

Parents/carers should sign and date their child's reading diary to show that they have heard their child read five times a week. They should also write which page their child will be on next and make a comment about how well their child has read, or if there are any difficulties. Here is an example below:

10/01/25 – 'The Ruby in the Smoke'. You summarised the story so far superbly and you were able to tell me about the characters and reasons for their actions– well done! p89 next. C.O'Brien.

English

Our first topic of 'Talk for Writing' this term will be based on a portal tale. Children will also be completing hot tasks for their recount (based on The Piano) and a Non-chronological Report on an animal of their choice which they will plan for homework. We will then be focusing on persuasive writing.

Maths

In Maths, pupils will be continuing their steps of the four operations as well as learn new skills involving shape, amounts, fractions and

algebra. They will also have the opportunity to take part in 'dangerous maths' sessions involving reasoning and problem solving throughout the week. Please ensure that your children are confident and fluent with their times table knowledge. They should know their times tables up to 12x12 by the end of year 4 but don't think it is ever too late. If this is the case, they should be on TTRS every day to ensure they are then able to apply this knowledge to reasoning tasks. In KS3 and 4, they will be expected to use their mental maths skills and will be tested at GCSE with non-calculator papers.

Topics

Our curriculum offer is structured in a three-week rolling timetable to help us deliver longer and more exciting science, art and humanities lessons which enable some topics to be revisited to deepen learning. As such, you will almost definitely hear your child talking about the same topics and undoubtedly, these topics will pop up in homework from time to time.

In history we will cover: Early Islamic Civilisation and Tudors

In geography, we will be exploring more of the world's biomes and climate zones and working on basic map skills (including basic knowledge of capital cities and country names!)

RE: We are currently trialing a new RE curriculum and in Lent we will be focusing on Branch 3 – Galilee to Jerusalem where we will concentrate on John's Gospel and the 7 signs of Jesus' divinity.

As part of our 'PHSE' curriculum, we will continue to look at Catholic Social Teaching, Relationships & Sex Education, Values and Virtues and Personal Development (this term's theme is 'Improving')

P.E.

Our PE days will continue to be on:

Class 10 – Tuesday and Wednesday

Class 11 – Tuesday and Friday

Class 12 – Tuesday and Friday

Swimming at Gayton will continue with the current Y6 group until February half term when the rest of Year 6 will be going for the remainder of the year. (Children will need a swimming costume/shorts/trunks (no bikinis!) and a swimming hat.)