

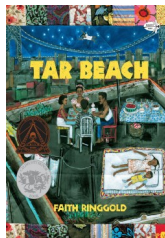
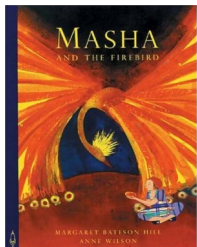
TERMtalk

CURRICULUM NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

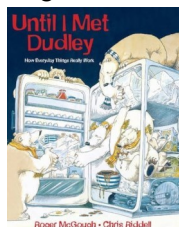
Issued termly: Autumn Term Year 4: St Lucy and St John Paul



English



In English lessons, our first text will be ***Masha and the Firebird***. We will be exploring the language used in traditional stories and using descriptive language. We will try to use techniques for building suspense and also writing our own diary entries. The next book will be called '**Tar beach**' by Faith Ringgold which explores themes of freedom. Children will be recreating the text in script format and using drama and role play to bring their stories to life.



After the half term break, we will explore the story of Rama and Sita during World Faith Week. One of our key texts next half term will be, ***Until I Met Dudley***. We will look at paragraphing and non-fiction writing including explanation texts.

Reading and Spelling

Please can you help support your child with daily reading and also their weekly spellings. Reading diaries should be signed daily.

Visits to the local library are strongly encouraged as this is a really important age for inspiring reading for pleasure.

Maths

This term the children will follow the **National Curriculum** for maths. The main emphasis for the first half term is **place value, ordering and rounding** and working with **numbers up to 10,000**.

We will also consolidate our understanding of the **relationship** between **addition and subtraction, doubling and finding patterns**. There will also be plenty of revision of the **mental methods of the four rules of number**.

The children will be checking their answers by using **inverse operations** e.g. subtracting to check addition and multiplying to check division work.

As the term goes on children will also be working with statistics, and revising **mental and written methods of multiplication and division**. In the topic of measures, they will be expected to know how to measure and use units of length, weight, capacity money and time and apply this when solving "**real life**" problems.



Times tables

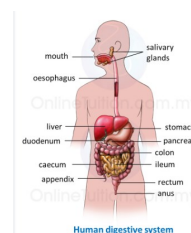
By the end of year 4, children will require to sit a times tables test. This is statutory and must be completed by all year 4 children in the country. Please make sure you are encouraging your children to learn their times tables.

Science

Our first Science topic for year 4 will be **Animals** including humans. Children will be learning about the human digestive system and how food is transported around the body.

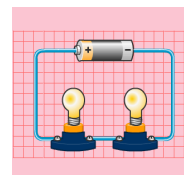
Children will also investigate teeth and what causes decay. During lessons they will identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions. Pupils will discuss the differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes by comparing human and animal teeth.

The children will compare the diets of herbivores, carnivores and omnivores and create food chains and webs.



Our second topic is **Electricity**. The children will learn the health and safety rules needed when using it. We will look at how we use electricity and what life would be like without it e.g. how many **appliances** are there at home or around the school that rely on electricity?

The children will make a **light bulb** work using a **battery** and **wire**. We will investigate the structure of electrical **circuits** and **test** them, by changing the number of bulbs or the length of the wires. These will be recorded through the use of symbols to represent the items in the circuit.



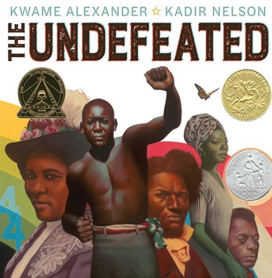
OTHER SUBJECTS

History

This term, children will be learning about life in Britain after the Roman withdrawal and deepening their understanding about why it took place. Children will learn about Anglo-Saxon and Viking invasions up to the Norman conquest. They will name and investigate Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, beliefs and customs. To develop their understanding they will also learn about religion as well as everyday life in Anglo-Saxon Britain. At the end of the unit they will know significant people such as King Athelstan. Year 4 pupils will understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses.



October is Black History month and during this period we will be looking at a narrative poem, 'The undefeated', that highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery and the perseverance of some of the world's greatest heroes and heroines.



Computing

During the first half of this term, the children will be learning about **ONLINE SAFETY** and how to use the internet and social media safely. It is very important that you support your child and there is a wealth of information for you to read about this topic on our school's website www.stjosephs.southwark.sch.uk

Our next topic will be **Word Processing**. In this unit, children will be using MS Word and they will learn about formatting images and organising content into an effective layout. You could help support your child at home by working on their basic typing skills and ensuring they know how to save their work on a computer.

Art & Design

Contrast and Complement

Our art and design topic is linked to our history topic. Children will learn about colour theory by studying the colour wheel and colour mixing. This includes an exploration of tertiary colours, warm and cool colours, complementary colours and analogous colours, and how artists use colour in their artwork. Children will be introduced to watercolour paints by showing them a watercolour palette. During the unit, they will practice using paints and a variety of different sized brushes to model the properties of watercolours, including its translucency.

Children will be shown how to mix colours in a palette, and on the paper itself. They will be given practical materials and be encouraged to freely explore the properties of the paint in their sketchbooks. Also, children will be inspired to add annotations to describe the paint's properties and describe any colours they make. Regularly, children will be invited to compare their findings, sharing tips and challenges they faced along the way.



When using the internet be



A cartoon illustration of a young boy and a young girl running side-by-side. The boy, on the left, has dark skin and curly hair, wearing a white t-shirt, grey shorts, and blue sneakers. The girl, on the right, has light skin and blonde hair, wearing a pink t-shirt, green shorts, and grey sneakers. They are both smiling and appear to be in motion, with their arms and legs in running positions.

In **Games**, the children will revise and practice a wider range of **football skills** with the emphasis being on greater **control of the ball and positioning of feet**, as well as how to pass and shoot with greater accuracy. They will also be learning to play a variety of net games and improving their hand eye co-ordination while playing racket games.

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Thank you.



Trust God,
Keep the Faith