



# St John Vianney Catholic Primary School – Year 6 – Autumn 1st



“Seeking Growth Together Through Jesus”



## English



Our focus this half term will be emerging the children back into a rich, exciting English curriculum. In order to support our Science and Geography topics, we will be using texts and other stimuli to explore the life of Sir David Attenborough. The children will develop the skill note-taking based on independent research and how these notes are then transferred into independent coherent paragraphs in relation to their genre outcome. Over the half term the children will plan, edit, and publish the following genres:

- Information text about climate change
- Biography on Sir David Attenborough
- Free verse poem about nature

During whole class reading sessions, the children will spend the first half term revisiting and embedding core skill, including: skimming, scanning, retrieval, and summarising. This will be taught through a range of ways including whole class guided reading, iReading comprehension and small group intervention. Handwriting and presentation will be a key focus this half term and personalised learning targets will be set in the first two week after a baseline assessment has been completed. We are prioritising the teaching of common exception words, and these can be found on the homework overview on the school website. We encourage our children to continue to read each night to develop fluency, a love of reading and expand their vocabulary.



## Maths



This half term we will be consolidating our understanding of Number and Calculations.

We will begin to explore numbers to ten million, developing a deeper understanding of rounding, negative numbers, and estimation.

We will then move on to look at written and mental methods to solve calculations with all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division).

These areas will be revisited regularly throughout Year 6, so we aim to delve deeper and ensure that all children have a good understanding before we introduce new topics.

This half term we will remind the children about the use of manipulatives to support learning opportunities, allowing the children to construct physical models to support abstract mathematical ideas.

We will also be starting Numeracy Ninjas – daily mental skills tests which will improve our precision and fluency using mental methods, times tables and more challenging concepts.

After each new concept, the children will be independently recording their knowing in their Maths Journal. The purpose of the journal is to record their methods, explanations, and ideas for solving maths problems and learning of mathematical concepts.



## Science



This half term the children will delve deeper into the topic of ‘Living Things and their Habitats’, focusing on describing how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics. These will be based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals (both vertebrates and invertebrates).

The children will also give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on these specific characteristics.

To gain more knowledge about the topic, the books ‘The Good Germ Hotel’ (by Kim Sung-hwa) and ‘Tiny Creatures Below your Feet’ (Berenice Talamantes-Becerra) will be read and discussed.

Knowledge gained about living things will be applied to the children creating their own branching databases, as well as exploring living things around the local area.

Hand-held microscopes will be used to observe mould growth and an investigation will be independently planned and carried out into mould growth.

In addition to this, the children will study the works of Carl Linneaus and how his classification system has been modified into the system we use today.



## Religious Education



In Year 6, our curriculum driver words are to:

- Give reasons and make links with detail and accuracy
- Show understanding
- Engage and respond
- Begin to explain in detail

We are created in the image and likeness of God and therefore, to start our Year 6 curriculum RE time, we will explore Genesis and celebrate the richness and diversity of creation. We will also cover objectives to teach the children:

- Ways of love thy neighbour that can be shown at home, at Church, locally & globally
- Respect for community values and life of other cultures & other religious communities - the Christian values which inform love of neighbour and oneself.
- Key imagery that speaks of God in the Old Testament and the Gospels.

Our overarching topic is called ‘Life in Christ’ and our focus this half term is learn the following prayers and Mass responses:

- Holy, Holy, Holy...
- I confess...
- The Act of Contrition

We will celebrate the Feast of Saint Matthew at Mass as a year group, Rosary Day, Creation Week and Harvest this half term too.



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## History

To start our Year 6 History, we will be focussing on local history of Blackpool. Upper Key Stage 2 will complete a focus study on the origin of the naming of Blackpool as well as the development of the Winter Gardens over time. In History we will be covering three different historical periods, including:

- Vikings
- World War 2
- Mayans

We will be developing our skills as historians to understand chronology, compare civilisations through artefacts and a variety of primary and secondary sources.

## Art

In Art this half term, the children will explore the artwork of *Lubaina Himid* and the themes and media she chose to work with.

In addition to this the children will further their knowledge and experience in working with 2D and 3D models and sculptures through the graphic design of packaging. This will require a combination of invention and logic.

They will explore how mark making, line, tonal value, colour, shape, composition, and typography can be used to inform the final piece using the media of card, paper and drawing materials.

## Music

All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: *Happy, a Pop song by Pharrell Williams*

The children will learn to through a practical and systematic way exploring musical games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.

The children will be explicitly taught vocabulary linked the topic and finally, the children will have the opportunity to perform the song ‘Happy’ to an audience.

## Physical Education

Our Physical Education topics are:

- Athletics
- Cricket
- Dance

This first half term, children will work with Mr Hitchon to develop and build on skills they have learnt in previous years.

They will also focus on understanding the links between health and fitness, and how to engage in physical activities in a safe way.

Children will complete a sportsman study about a local cricketer, Steven Croft

## ICT and Computing

The children will be taught how to use methods of communication to suit purposes, understanding how data is transferred using agreed methods.

The children will also be taught that internet have addressed and how computers use these to access website.

A prime focus this half term which will run throughout the year will be the importance of internet safety and the children knowing how and why to stay safe online. The children will recognise that working together on the internet can be public or private.

## French

In French this half term, the children will be exploring vocabulary linking to school subjects in their topic ‘L’Ecole’. They will consolidate the vocabulary for school subjects and to extend this knowledge by introducing an opinion or forming a short phrase.

In addition to this, the children will revise the numbers 1-12 and learn how to tell the time (by the hour) in French, allowing the children to give reasons for likes and dislikes, as well as applying detail to discussions about school.

The children will also research Louis Pasteur and learn about his contributions towards scientific processes.

## Relationships & Health Education (RHE)

In Unit 2, ‘*Me, My Body, My Health*’ children will learn that celebrating differences between people is enriching to a community and know that their self-confidence should arise from being loved by God.

They will learn about the physical changes that boys and girls go through during puberty and how they should respect and take care of their bodies as gifts from God. Genitals are also mentioned here, but not named and identified.

RHE lessons are delivered through the ‘*TenTen Programme*’.

## Seeking Growth Together

During ‘Seeking Growth Together’ time we will focus on learning about:

- Rule of Law (*British Values*)
- Democracy (*British Values*)
- Health and Well-Being
- Gospel Values
- Mutual Respect (*British Values*)
- Global Learning

Our creative approach to teaching Seeking Growth Together will be led by our school ‘drivers’ including: *oracy, metacognition, P4C and journaling.*

