

# SPRING TERM

## St James the Great Catholic Primary School

9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to the beginning of a new term. I hope you had a restful and enjoyable festive time.

I have outlined below the topics that we shall be covering this term.

PE lessons will continue be on **Thursday and Friday**. However, for this term, the children are having **Cricket** every **Monday**. Please ensure that your child brings into school their full Swimming costume and towel on **Friday** afternoons. PE kit: white tee-shirt, black shorts or tracksuit bottom and black plimsoles /trainers.

I will keep you informed of any changes or further developments.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thank you for your continuous co-operation.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J. Oduko

<b>English</b>	<p><b>Text: Black Dog by Levi Pinfold</b> Children will be reading the book and identifying the structure of the text. They will be looking at the issue of the size of the dog and how it relates to fear and worry. Children will write their own story with suspense based on a fear they might have using the structure of Black Dog. This will have opportunities to embed speech, and adverbials for how, where and when, which they will apply within their own writing.</p> <p><b>Text: The Matchbox Diary by Paul Fleischman,</b> The children will discover a set of matchboxes containing some of the mementoes from the story. After writing predictions about what the objects might relate to, the children will listen to the story in stages. They will make inferences about why the great-grandfather and his family went to America, explore vocabulary and write in role. After exploring prepositions, they create a ship's log that is in the form of a recount. They then investigate migration and read for research to gather ideas about Ellis Island. Following this, the children plan and then write a non-chronological report about the great-grandfather's and other who made a similar journey all those years ago.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p><b>Learn all multiplication tables 2x to 12x</b> Round three-digit and four-digit numbers to the nearest 10 or 100; extend by rounding four-digit numbers to the nearest 1,000 Read and write Roman numerals to 20 (XX), to 50 (L) and to 100 (C) e.g. XXVI = 26 Solve word problems involving addition/subtraction/ multiplication and division.</p> <p><b>FRACTIONS:</b> Solve problems involving non-unit fractions e.g. What is 2/3 of 90cm? Recognise families of common equivalent fractions e.g. 1/4 = 2/8 = 3/12; 1/3 = 2/6 = 3/9 Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator within one whole e.g. 3/5 + 1/5 = 4/5, 7/8 – 3/8 = 4/8 = 1/2;</p> <p><b>MEASURES:</b> Areas: children explore area-They count squares to find the area of rectilinear shapes.; they explore making rectilinear shapes when given the number of squares. They use the symbols &lt;, &gt; and = to compare and draw their own shapes.</p> <p><b>Time:</b> Learn about the relationship between the number of days, week, months and years; the relationship between hours, minutes and seconds. Read, write and convert between analogue and 12-hour digital time; Convert to and from the 24 hour clock –</p>

	<p><b>Money:</b> Estimate, calculate and solve problems with money;</p> <p><b>Geometry: Coordinates-</b> Describe Position using coordinates; Plot coordinates; Draw 2-D shapes on a grid</p> <p><b>STATISTICS:</b> Solve comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in a bar chart</p>
<b>RE</b>	<b>See separate sheet:</b> The Local Church Community / Eucharist-Relating / Lent-Easter
<b>Science</b>	<p><b>States of Matter:</b> The children will learn the differences between solids, liquids and gases, classify objects and identify their properties. They will investigate the weight of a gas. Find the ideal temperature to melt chocolate. They will explore how water changes state, exploring melting, freezing, condensing as well as a particular focus on evaporation. They will learn about the stages of the water cycle.</p> <p><b>Sound:</b> The children will learn about how vibrations cause sounds and how sounds travel, as well as how sounds can change pitch and loudness. The children will investigate the best material for soundproofing, in the context of making a music studio quieter. They will demonstrate their learning by designing and creating their own musical instrument.</p>
<b>PSHE / Relationship &amp; Sex Education</b>	<p><b>Health and wellbeing: LIFE TO THE FULL</b></p> <p>They will learn about the impact of illegal drug, alcohol, smoking and passive smoking. Children will learn about how to respect and be safe in their bodies, different types of abuses and how to respond. They will learn about life cycle, what puberty is and changes to the body.</p>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>Italy</b> -They know where Italy is in the world. To know about the physical geography of Italy. To know how volcanoes erupt and to find out about the destruction of Pompeii. To know about the famous cities and landmarks of Italy. To know about the culture of Italy. To use and share our knowledge and understanding of Italy
<b>History</b>	<p><b>The Anglo-Saxons-</b> The children will learn about the invasions of the Scots and Anglo-Saxons in the 5th century. They will find out where the invading troops came from and where in Britain they managed to settle and then they will go on to investigate how life in Britain changed as a result. The children will have the opportunity to learn how the Anglo-Saxons influenced the English language, with an emphasis on the origins of some English place names, and they will also examine and analyse artefacts from the period and draw their own conclusions about what they can teach us about life in Anglo-Saxon Britain.</p>
<b>Art</b> <b>D&amp;T</b>	<p><b>Chromatic:</b> Children will learn how artists use sketchbooks in this painting and collage unit. They will learn what mixed media is and use collage and water-colour, while being inspired by buildings and the work of other artists. They will learn about the work of an architect, some Victorian photo-collagists, and a contemporary collagist. They will develop their ability to evaluate their own work. They will become more confident while creating their own more divergent outcomes.</p> <p><b>Pencil Case:</b> Know how to design and make the products by selecting materials for purpose. Know to apply running and cross stitches join securely and to decorate the pencil case. To evaluate and identify improvement area.</p>
<b>Computing</b>	Data Logging: Children will learn that data gathered over time can be used to answer questions; use a digital device to collect data automatically; that a data logger collects 'data points' from sensors over time; recognise how a computer can help us analyse data; identify the data needed to answer questions; use data from sensors to answer questions...
<b>PE</b>	<p>The children will select and combine matched actions. They will combine travelling and balancing to make a sequence. They will combine several travelling and jumping actions on different apparatus.</p> <p><b>Multi-skills:</b> Children will learn to react quickly to instructions given. make quick movements that outwit an opponent; able explore, practice and hold a number of different balances.</p>
<b>Music</b>	The children will understand that music can describe a picture. They will create a picture based on the music played.
<b>Mandarin</b>	Learning about how to describe location, saying 'where we are' and knowing about Chinese cities.