



St. Maximilian's Class

Autumn Term 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome to an exciting new school year in Year 5! We are thrilled to embark on this educational journey together. Our dedicated team is committed to fostering a nurturing environment where your children can thrive academically and socially. We look forward to sharing our adventures and achievements with you!

English

This term we will begin by writing a non-chronological text linking it to our History work on the census. Following this we will be using the text 'A Town by the Sea' as a stimulus for Art activities and development in letter and diary writing. Alongside these lessons the children will look at a variety of grammatical features through our place value of punctuation and grammar sessions.

Our reading lessons will take place daily, where the children will work through a carousel of activities throughout the week which will focus on the development of their reading fluency and comprehension skills.

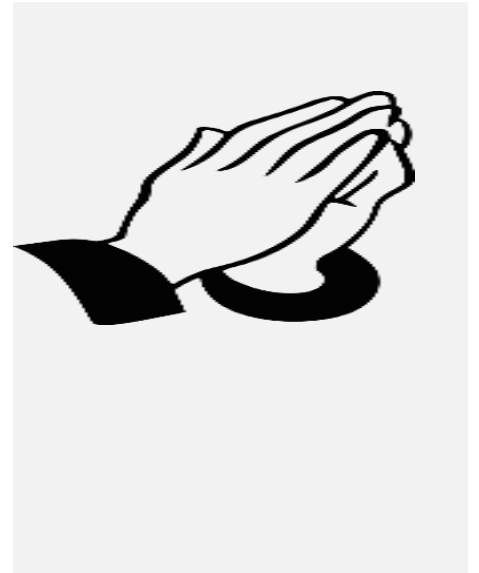
Spelling lessons will take place daily in school following the Ed Shed scheme. Children will be provided with a login to be able to access homework activities which will be set weekly.

Reading books – your child has been given a school reading book as well as a reading for pleasure book which they should be bringing home to read. I would encourage you to spend time supporting your child with their reading; this can be through independent reading, shared reading as well as the child reading to you themselves. It really helps when children have an adult to model how a text should sound so we do encourage shared reading as much as possible.

RE

This term our focus in RE will be Creation and covenant:

In this branch, pupils will encounter the God who creates and calls a people. They will explore revelation of the Christian belief that all that has come from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation. They will explore the call of God and his covenantal relationship with his people first through Abraham and Moses, then through the narrative of the Old Testament.



Maths

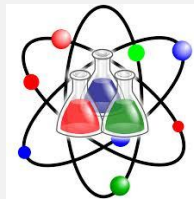
We will start the term consolidating children's knowledge of the number system and the key parts of the maths curriculum to help build their confidence before furthering their learning with new content. The children will learn both written and mental addition, subtraction, multiplication and division strategies to use with larger numbers as well as decimal numbers. We will also be finding factors and multiples of numbers and be linking this to our continuous work on recall of times table facts. Children will learn how to use methods such as rounding to help them when working mentally and also as a strategy to check answers. We will be working on developing our mental arithmetic skills and rapid recall of number facts.



Science

In Science this term, we will begin by exploring Animals Including Humans. The children will work scientifically to investigate this topic, focusing on the key question: "How do humans change as they grow and develop?" Through a range of practical enquiries and investigations, pupils will deepen their understanding of the human life cycle and the changes that occur throughout life.

After half term, our focus will shift to Forces. We will explore the concept of gravity and learn about the significant discoveries of Sir Isaac Newton. The children will continue to develop their scientific enquiry skills, becoming more independent in selecting and carrying out appropriate methods of investigation to answer questions and solve problems. This will encourage them to think critically, make predictions, and draw conclusions from their findings.



Spanish

This term we will enjoy listening, reading, writing and speaking in Spanish. We will listen and respond to familiar spoken words, phrases and sentences and communicate with others using these words. Children will build on their previous learning and be able to expand the sentences they use with additional details, broadening their Spanish vocabulary.

What can the census tell us about local areas?

This term we will be examining how census records can help historians understand the past by making inferences about people's lives in different time periods.

We will be identify the type of information the census gives about people; make inferences about people from the past.

Identify and describe the changes between periods of time using the census.

Plan a local history enquiry using the censustrade routes and evaluating sources to analyse the purpose of these movments.

Music

- In music we will be discussing the stylistic features of music and relating it to other aspects of art. Children will explore hoe to represent changes in pitch and texture using graphic notation, justifying their choices with reference to musical vocabulary. Children will work as a group to perform a piece of music, adjusting the interrelated dimensions of music as required, keeping in time and communicating with the group.

PE Year 5 PE - children will be working on developing strength, agility, balance and coordination through games and activities to support fitness. Children will learn about the different components of fitness and how this supports them in other activities.

We will also be working on Basketball this term where children will learn how to use space to support their team, demonstrate attacking skills and defensive techniques. They will learn how to pass accurately and to make decisions within a game

Snack Time

Please ensure you provide your child with a healthy snack for their break. In addition to this, please give your child a bottle of water each day so that they can drink whenever they feel thirsty.

Password

Please ensure that you have informed the office of a password to be used in the event of someone else collecting your child from school.

I hope that you have found this newsletter helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Thank you for your support,

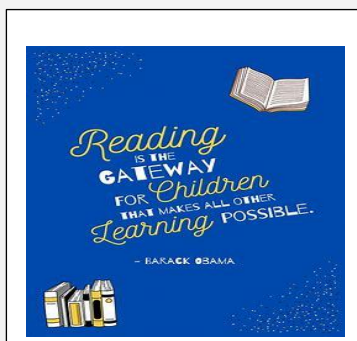
Mr O'Brien

Homework

Reading Books Children should be reading for a minimum of 10 minutes per day.

Spelling activities will be set weekly on Edshed for children to access at home.

All children have access to times table rockstars which can be used to support **times table** recall.



PSHE Year 5 & 6

Health & Well-being

This term in PSHE we will be looking 'me, my body, and my health'

Children will be identifying the similarities and differences between people which arise as they grow and mature. They will build on their understanding of how we are all unique, with different family set ups, gifts and talents.

Dear Lord, as we begin this new school term, we place all students, teachers, and staff into Your care. Give our students minds that are eager to learn, courage to face new challenges, and the strength to focus each day.

Surround those who feel anxious with Your perfect peace.

Bless our teachers with patience, wisdom, and joy as they guide young minds.

Watch over our school community, keep us safe in body and mind, and walk with us every step of the way. In your name, we pray. Amen.

