

# The Cathedral School of St Mary

Cecil Street  
Stonehouse

## Navigator Class Newsletter

April 2021

### Welcome Back

Hi families! It is lovely to have you all back with us as we enter the latter stages of the school year. I hope you have all had a well-deserved rest and managed to make the most of the slightly lighter restrictions over the Easter break. Although there has been a lot of progress, we are still very much living in unsettled times, but as always, we will continue to try and support your children as best we



can until our lives return to some normality. If you have any worries, concerns or would just like some reassurance over your child and their school journey, please get in touch either through ClassDojo or via emailing me: [tdriscoll@csosm.org.uk](mailto:tdriscoll@csosm.org.uk). Failing this you can always contact the school office and leave a message for me there.

As part of a whole school initiative, Class 4 has undergone a name change and will now be known as Navigator Class. We welcome Miss Morrison back as our class TA after her time helping in other classes. Miss Richardson will continue to join us this term as she pursues her career in teaching. We will also be welcoming two other trainee teachers; Mrs Burns and Miss Lambert who will be joining the class on Thursday and Fridays. As the term progresses the children will get to work increasingly with our new adults and we are very grateful for the support they will bring.

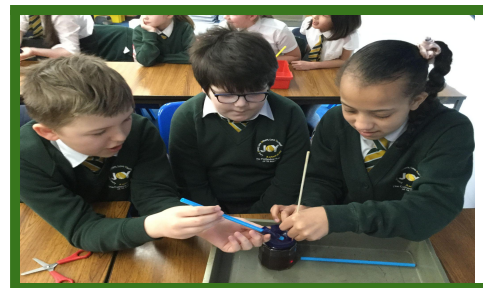


## Important notices

**Covid Awareness:** It is important that we try to keep the school environment as protected as possible to ensure that the children's education is not further disrupted. With this in mind, please make that you and your household are aware of and follow the latest government guidance regarding the pandemic. We will ensure that thorough hand washing takes place before every transition and discourage unnecessary contact with items such as handles. Please reinforce this message at home. Please do not allow your child to come to school with unnecessary items such as pencil cases, toys, cards etc. Finally, in an effort to keep cross-contact to a minimum, the children will be keeping all of their belongings with them in their places so the less they have, the better.

**PE kits will need to be worn to school on Fridays and washed each week.** I recommend that the children wear trainers as these will be more comfortable for the duration of the day. Please ensure that all school clothing is washed on a regular basis and shoes are cleaned where possible.

**Class Dojo:** Please ensure that you all have access to your child's Class Dojo account. Here you will be able to keep up-to-date with latest news and events regarding whole school activities, as well as day-to-day life in the classroom. You will also be able to message me from your account which I check on a daily basis during weekdays.



**Homework:** In Navigator Class, there is an expectation that the children will read at least four times a week and have this reading recorded in their reading record. If a child forgets their book or finishes a book quickly, we encourage them to find another piece or text that they can read at home in addition to the school book. This can be anything from a gaming magazine, to a sporting review to a recipe book! In addition to this, each child is also expected to practice their spellings and times table facts at home at least once a week. Finally, the children will also be set a piece of writing or maths homework once a week via IXL. If homework is not completed on time or to the standard that they are capable of, children may be asked to have another go.

Under the current restrictions, homework will be online only. If your child needs support at any stage, please encourage them to speak to me.

**Residential:** As it stands the residential will go ahead, however it will be for **Year 6 children only**. Those parents who have paid in part or full to last year's cancelled event, have had their funds transferred to this year's event. Obviously there is a lot of extra planning now needed for the event to go ahead and **it may still be cancelled** but it is likely that, all being well, the residential will take place on the week beginning the 24th May 2021. More information will be provided in the near future. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Packer or myself.

**Junior Ten Tors:** Unfortunately it has been decided that the Junior Ten Tors for this year will be cancelled. We hope that the Year 5's will have an opportunity to apply for this event next year.

**Mass:** The Catholic Life of the school is of paramount importance and I am pleased to share with you that the children will continue to attend Mass with Canon Mark in the Cathedral. This term also celebrates the feast of The Ascension. Navigator Class will be attending Mass this day as it is a Holy Day of Obligation.



## Our Learning this Summer

This term we will be beginning a new topic - "You're Not Invited" is a thematic unit, based around invaders with a key focus on history. It begins by looking at the concept of invasion, before focusing especially on the Romans, learning about important Roman figures and their reasons for invading other countries.

In our **RE** lessons this term we will begin the term by exploring the Hindu faith. The children will be developing their understanding of the Hindu interpretation of god and how their beliefs influence their daily lives. Following this, we will be moving on to our Pentecost unit where we will explore what it means to live a life of service. We will look to reveal how Christians believe that the Spirit of God is active in each person and, in a special way, in the community of believers, which is the Church. It is the work of the Spirit to enable people to hear God's message and to live Jesus' way of service.

In **English** this term we will be supporting our theme work by reading Julia Jarman's, *The Time Travelling Cat and the Roman Eagle*. We aim to build our understanding of the Roman Empire in order to create an explanation text based on the children's own research. We will be finishing the term exploring the features of narrative writing with a particular focus on the skills needed to create an atmosphere of suspense and anticipation.



In **maths** the children will be continuing to develop their learning around measure and the conversion of metric measurements. We will then complete the term exploring position and direction in which the children will learn about reflecting and translating in all four axis. Each week the children will also complete a mental maths assessment.

Our **science** this term will be taught by Mrs Ellard. The children will be exploring the scientific unit of Forces. There will be opportunity for the children to investigate the effects of different forces such as air resistance, water resistance and friction, whilst continuing to develop their scientific enquiry skills and their ability to describe their observations.

Finally, in **PE** we look forward to a term of tennis. The children will have opportunities to develop throwing and catching skills as well as racquet-based skills such as forehand, backhand and serving, as well as their strategic awareness and gameplay.



All of our learning is underpinned by our Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning work the pupils engage in and with this in mind we will also be incorporating time for personal reflection and the development of positive personal mental health strategies.

Let's hope that the term goes according to plan and that the children all make the most of exploring these amazing learning opportunities and, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

With every good wish,

**Mr Driscoll and the Navigator Class Team**