

### Reading

Please ensure your child reads at least three times a week and records it in their reading diary. We have a very generously stocked class library available for all Year Five pupils, as well as suggesting that all children have a library membership to Staffordshire Libraries. Accelerated Reader recommends that children should read for 30 minutes per day for maximum progress.

We welcome any donations of reading books that you no longer require at home.

### Homework and Spellings

Each week your child should complete the following homework which is due by Wednesday morning.

Weekly homework project - 20-30 minutes on average  
Times Table RockStars - a minimum of 10 minutes practice  
ReadingWise - a minimum of 10 minutes practice  
Reading - at least 3 times a week for a minimum of 10 minutes each  
Spellings - practice until confident

If children are struggling to complete their homework they will be able to attend a homework club which allows them to focus on their work on a Wednesday lunchtime.

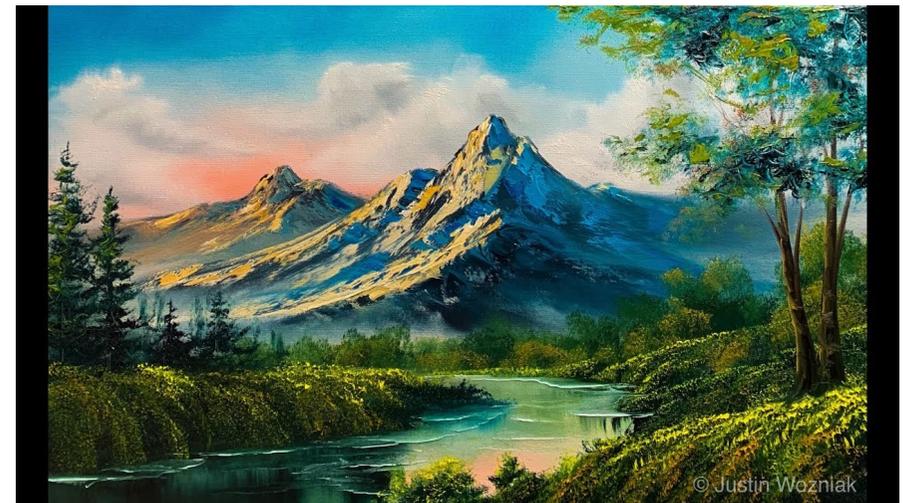
If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call the office and make an appointment to see me, or email me at

Year5-KS2@StJohnsKidsgrove.org.uk

Yours sincerely  
Mr Wiggs



## **The world around us**



**Class: Year Five**  
**Spring Term 2022**

### Catholic Virtues

This term our values and virtues are Intentional and Prophetic. Our pupils make deliberate choices about how they live their lives, and as they grow older they become responsible for a wider and greater range of expectations. We look to achieve a balance between understanding what is important to us, and how best to spend our time and energy for the betterment of everyone we care about. We appreciate and stand by the choices we make. We are prophetic in the way we actively plan for a better future, understanding that we have a place in God's plan for the world. We do good deeds, not because we should, but because we know it is the right way to live. We speak out for what is right, and we share the good news in every thought, word and action we perform.

### Religious Education

In RE this half term, children will be learning about the way that Jesus taught the world to appreciate the Kingdom of God through his parables and teachings. We will delve into the meaning behind some common parables, as well as recognising how these are relevant to the modern world as much as they were two thousand years ago.

We will also be learning about the liturgical period of Lent, and how we can recognise the importance of the three pillars of penitence: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This will eventually lead us towards Holy Week at the end of the term, as we prepare for Easter.

### English

Our focus this half term is to improve our grammar and punctuation through writing with a variety of sentence styles, and ensuring we have appropriate word choices in our work.

We will be reading *Street Child*, by Berlie Doherty, which will allow us to explore balances arguments and diary entries in our independent writing.

Our class target this term is to improve and maintain neat handwriting, using consistently legible script in our writing and using correct cursive technique. In Year Five we utilise the Pen Licence scheme to reward children for reaching a suitable standard of handwriting, legibility, and use of continuous cursive, and we would be very proud to see more pupils achieve this target.

### Maths

This half term we will be improving our knowledge of arithmetic, including solidifying our multiplication and division strategies, and ensuring we are comfortable with decimal numbers.

Following this we will be learning about angles between lines and inside shapes, and learn how to use a protractor to accurately measure angles, and complete reasoning questions about estimating and calculating combined angles.

### Science

This half term we will be learning about various forces that act upon the physical world, and how we can observe and measure these forces. We will learn about Isaac Newton and his "discovery" of gravity, as well as the concepts of push/pull and drag/momentum. We will perform a variety of experiments to investigate air resistance, water resistance, and surface friction. We will also undertake a demonstration of how simple mechanical devices provide advantage to force, such as pulleys, levers, and gears.

### P.E. (Lessons take place on Mondays and Wednesdays)

This half-term Year 5 will be developing their strategic thinking through two different team games, Basketball and Cricket. This will help us to improve our communication and group tactical play, as well as alternating from attack and defence quickly. We will expand on the core skills we were building last half term, including throwing, catching, movement, and anticipating the direction of play.

Please ensure children have the correct P.E. for both indoor and outdoor lessons throughout this half term. Children may not wear their standard school uniform for P.E. Lessons. Footwear must be trainers or plimsoles; school shoes are not appropriate for physical activity lessons.

### Art and Design

During this half term we will be expanding our previous art topic, cityscapes, into a relaxing and intriguing look at how artists saw the world around us. By looking at a variety of landscape artists and their techniques, we will develop and improve our own skills. We will learn about positioning and colour theory, as well as the base elements of tone and line.

### Geography

This half term the children will be investigating and improving their knowledge of human and physical geography of Mexico, and comparing/contrasting what we learn to the more familiar geography of Great Britain. We will learn about weather and climate, physical features such as mountains and rivers, as well as human features such as cities, populations, average lifestyle and life expectancy.