



Diocese of Portsmouth

**ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

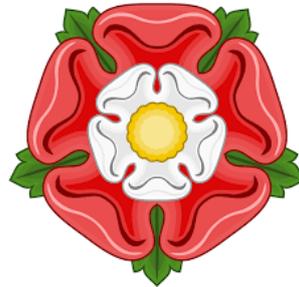
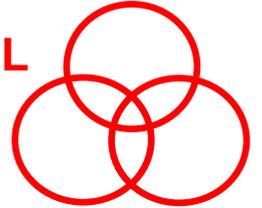
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Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



## Year 4 Newsletter January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year. I hope that you have all had a relaxing Christmas break and enjoyed more family time. I would also like to thank you again for your kind gifts and Christmas cards. They are much appreciated and I am working my way through all the chocolates. I am sure the children are ready to continue to challenge themselves to achieve the best they can and I am ready to help them with that.

This term our topic is going to be 'Terrible Tudors' and I hope the children are going to enjoy it as much as our previous one. The majority of our writing will be planned around Tudors. We are going to learn about the different aspects of the Tudor times, including King Henry VIII and his monarchy, as well as different aspects of everyday life and culture.

**Writing:** The children will complete a variety of writing through the topic including recounts, diaries, newspaper reports, adventure stories, poetry, information pages, character descriptions, biography and autobiography, persuasive letters, as well as retelling traditional stories and legends. Also, the children will have regular opportunities to perform and present their work through drama, roleplay and performing poetry activities, which is useful to help them grow in confidence to be able to perform in front of an audience.





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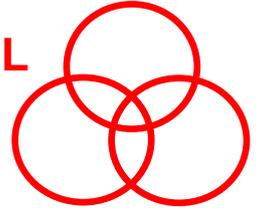
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**Grammar and Punctuation:** We will continue to have regular weekly sessions, to ensure the children are confident using standard English in all of their work.

**Handwriting:** The children will continue to improve their continuous cursive handwriting and will be rewarded with pen licences as soon as their handwriting is consistently neat enough to use a pen all the time.

**Spelling:** This term the children will begin to use a new spelling scheme, which hopefully will improve their standard of spelling and therefore writing.

The scheme is called 'No Nonsense Spelling' and it is taught little and often, focusing on spelling rules and patterns, following the National Curriculum guidance as usual. The new scheme gives the children more responsibility for their spelling by teaching them lots of methods for practising and learning words. It also gives them time to practice words which they use in their own writing, which are recorded in a personal spelling journal. Instead of a formal weekly spelling test, we will focus more on making sure that words are spelled correctly in the child's writing throughout the week, encouraging them to have a go at spelling words they are not sure of and teaching them to be more independent. I will also send home details about the spelling pattern or rule they have been working on, together with some words you could practice if you would like to support their learning at home. Where appropriate, children who need extra support will be working on alternative sounds, rules or patterns. All children will also be working on words they use regularly in their own writing.

**Reading:** Our class reading book for this term is going to be "The Chronicles of Narnia The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe". We will continue to read with the children individually, in weekly guided reading sessions and as a whole class. As well as improving their ability to read fluently, we will focus on the comprehension of texts to make sure the children understand what they read and can discuss it effectively.

In Year 4 we expect the children to read widely and regularly. One of the best ways you can support your child is to encourage their love of reading. Please, keep a record on their Star Reader sheets of all the books they are reading and these will be checked on Wednesdays alongside their homework. Please, help your child by making sure you still read with them daily.

**Maths:** This term the children will be focusing on place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, measurement, geometry and statistics. We





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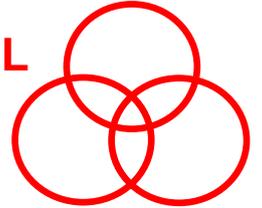
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will also use and apply the Maths taught to answer word problems and do lots of mathematical investigations. Please, encourage your children to continue to use TimesTables RockStars to practise their times tables. The children seem to really enjoy using it and it helps them to make progress in their times tables. We recommend them practising their tables for 10mins a day, as this will make all the difference to their learning in Maths. Times tables tests will continue to take place every Monday morning.

**Science:** We will cover two topics – Sound and Electricity. We are also planning to continue to focus on investigations and working scientifically.

**R.E.:** This term we will be learning about Christmas, Revelation, Lent and Holy Week.

**Homework:** Homework will continue to be given on Friday and is expected in, for marking, on Wednesday. Completing and returning homework is an important part of your child's education and your support with that is much appreciated. Please speak to me if you are having problems with homework or need any guidance with what is expected.

**Physical Education:** This term the children will practise Gymnastics and they still need to come to school wearing their P.E. kit on Fridays.

If there is anything you wish to discuss about your child, please do not hesitate to contact me via the class email address [class4@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:class4@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk).

Kind Regards,  
Mrs M. Wadzyk

