



St Alban's

Catholic Voluntary Academy

Upper Key Stage 2 Newsletter

Advent Term 2025/6

Welcome to Our Phase Newsletter

Welcome to the first phase newsletter of the year. Each half term, our newsletter will provide an overview of the key learning and events taking place across the phase. For Advent 1, the children will be exploring a range of exciting topics and activities designed to inspire curiosity, build confidence and deepen their understanding across the curriculum.

We hope this newsletter helps you stay connected with your child's learning journey and gives you a clear picture of what lies ahead. Everything we do is rooted in our mission of Learning, Loving, Living and in supporting the children to grow in their St Alban's character behaviours each day.

This half term, we will be learning...

Our topic driver this term:

This half term, our main driver is the Science unit on **Earth in Space**. This theme will not only be explored in our Science lessons but will also feed in to our wider curriculum.



RE

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 is comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation.



English

We will read:

'Where Once We Stood' by Christopher Riley.

We will be writing:

- Narrative retellings of the Apollo 11 moon landings.
- Newspaper articles reporting the moon landings.

Grammar focuses:

We will focus on understanding of main and subordinate clauses and punctuating these correctly.



Maths

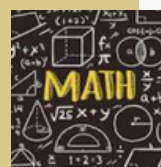
This term, we are learning about:

Year 6:

- Place value within 10,000,000
- Calculations with the four operations
- The order of operations
- Fractions - including calculating with fractions
- Measures

Year 5:

- Place value within 1,000,000
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions



Science

This term, we are learning about:

Earth in Space

- The order of the planets in our solar system and how they move in orbit around the sun.
- The work of scientists like Copernicus and Galileo in developing our knowledge of the solar system.
- The phases of the moon.



Learning, loving and living together, side by side with God

Wider Curriculum

History / geography - We will be exploring The Americas in our Geography unit after half term.

Music- The children will be learning to play the steel pans in preparation for their showcase later on in the term.

Art - This term, the children are learning about Retro-futurism (linking to our space theme as we focus on 1950's/1960's futuristic art). We will start by drawing and will end with printing.

PE - Games, including football and tag rugby.

Computing - Coding - Designing a game to meet given criteria, including variables such as a timer. Online safety - developing their knowledge of appropriate online behaviour and how to protect themselves online.

French - In this subject, the children will be learning about methods of transport and how to describe journeys using their growing knowledge of the French language.

RSE - Me, My Body and My Health. Specific information with links to the sessions will be sent via Dojo.

Spellings

Words ending in '-tious' and '-ious'
Words ending in '-cious'
Words ending '-cial'
Words ending '-tial'
Words ending '-cial' and '-tial'
Challenge Words taken from the Y5&6 statutory spelling list

Our class book this term:



Other important information:

PE sessions will be on Wednesdays and Fridays this year.

Y6 Briars residential trip will take place 20th - 22nd October

Parent consultations Monday 20th and Thursday 23rd October

Websites to explore...

- <https://ttrockstars.com/>
- <https://play.arithmagicians.com/selection>
- <https://rollama.com/login/>
- <https://www.edshed.com/en-gb/login/school>

A final prayer

Lord, thank You for the gift of learning and the joy of growing together each day. Bless our students and their families with peace, patience, and encouragement in the week ahead. May Your love guide us in all that we do.