



Information for parents

Term: Autumn 2
2017/18
Year group: 2

'Lord, you have placed us together, this year, at this school, adults among a rising generation, and you have entrusted to us a part in their mysterious growth to maturity'

(taken from a Prayer of Dedication of the School Year, Federation Mass, Monday 4th September 2017)

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to school after a half term break. We hope you are all feeling refreshed and ready for the second half of the autumn term.

The calendar is packed full already, with Year 5 School Journey, The Dads' and Grandad's "Big Breakfast Read" (details to follow), and assorted, exciting learning opportunities, both inside and outside of school.

Towards the latter end of the term, we will of course begin preparing for the excitement of Advent and associated festivities...details of which will follow in the coming weeks.

PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies)

We know most of you are aware of the 'Pupil of the Day' award given out at random on a daily basis to our pupils. We hope you have enjoyed hearing the compliments your child has received! If your child hasn't had a turn yet they will soon! We continue to participate in the PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) programme, supported by Barnardos. The programme consists of whole class lessons and the 'pupil of the day' approach is one way in which we are able to develop the ability to give and receive compliments. It is always a positive way to end the day! See <http://www.pathseducation.co.uk/> for more details.

WORKING TOGETHER

Please support your child in their attitude to learning and emotional growth by developing a 'Growth Mindset'. The 8 learning behaviours we focus on at school are:

- Not giving up (resilience)
- Co-operating (working as a team)
- Having a go (perseverance)
- Being curious (curiosity)
- Enjoying learning
- Improving
- Using your imagination (creativity)
- Concentrating

Also, please ensure that your child comes to school well rested and ready for learning by checking that they have the necessary equipment they need on a daily basis (e.g reading book and diary, homework resources, water bottle, PE kit etc).

Here is a brief outline of what your child will be learning about this half term:

Subject	Coverage	Suggestions as to how you can support learning at home
Literacy	Zeraffa Giraffa	We will be writing reports about giraffes. Why not visit London Zoo and the giraffe house to learn all about giraffes?
Numeracy	Addition and subtraction Measure – money Statistics	Practise handling money – can your child recognise the coins – do they know there is no 7p coin? Can the children add coins together? Can they give change from 10p, 20p, 50p or £1?
RE	Judaism Advent	We will be celebrating Shabbat with the children and talking to them about the Jewish faith. We will be preparing for the birth of Jesus through Advent. Please talk to your child about the Advent candles and what they represent. We will also be performing a nativity.
Science	Habitats	Please talk to your children about different habitats and which animals may live there. London Zoo is a great place to explore different creatures and their habitats but if that is too far away what about going pond dipping in Battersea Park?
Topic	Amazing Africa	Buy a globe or look on google earth to locate the different countries on the continent of Africa. Look at the countries and discuss how their climate is different from ours and why.
Computing	Scratch	We will be using our coding knowledge, learnt using Sphero, to programme a sprite to travel to the moon and back!

PE	Touch rugby and netball	Practice throwing and catching a ball with your child.
Music	Singing	In this half term we will be developing more accurate and controlled use of singing voices and learning all the songs for the nativity play.

Where possible we like to take the children out of school, or invite visitors in to speak to the children to enrich their learning. This half term we are going to a performance of Zeraffa Giraffa on Wednesday 29th November at the Omnibus Theatre to support our work in literacy.

Each class will perform one class assembly this year along with two open class sessions (as a year group), where your child will have an opportunity to share their learning with you.

Assembly date for class 2C: Wednesday 8th November 2017

Assembly date for class 2H: Wednesday 31st January 2018

Nativity for Year 2: Friday 15th December 2017

PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have specialist teachers and coaches. Please send your child in with his or her PE kit on Monday, and leave it at school until Friday. Any absences from PE need to be explained in a letter.

PE days for Year 2 are Thursday and Friday.

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on these days.

Children will come home in PE kit on Thursday and will need to come to school dressed in PE kit on Friday morning with their school uniform including shoes in their PE kit bag.

All teachers at Sacred Heart School follow the homework policy.

In year 2 we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Spellings	Friday	Friday	Practise each spelling every evening and ask them to use it in a sentence orally.
Maths and Mathletics	Friday	Friday	This work is aimed at supporting the work the children are doing in class. Each child is set 10 tasks on Mathletics per week.
This will vary between topic, literacy and science.	Friday	Friday	This is intended to be a shared activity which may include speaking, acting, writing, finding out or learning by heart (poetry).
Reading	Your child will need to have their reading book and reading record book in school every day . Please check your child's reading record book for changing day.		

Before and After School Clubs:

CLUBS TIMETABLE AUTUMN 2017

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MORNING SESSION	BREAKFAST CLUB FOOTBALL CLUB (8.00-8.50AM) (Y4/5/6)	BREAKFAST CLUB CHOIR (8:15-8:50am)	BREAKFAST CLUB	BREAKFAST CLUB	BREAKFAST CLUB FOOTBALL CLUB (8.00-8.50AM) (Y1/2/3)
AFTER-SCHOOL	ORCHESTRA (RK) (Selected pupils) RUNNING CLUB (3.30-4.30PM) COMPUTING* (ES- Old ICT Suite- 3.30-4.25pm)	SCIENCE CLUB* (3.30-4.30PM-Mrs Sedda) Italian* (AB) (3.30-4.30pm) NETBALL CLUB KS2 (3.30-4.30PM) GYMNASTICS**** (3.30-4.30pm)	CRAFT CLUB* (D.M-Hall) NETBALL LEAGUE (3.30-5.30PM) BASKETBALL CLUB KS1 (3.30-4.30PM)	SCIENCE CLUB* (3.30-4.30PM-Mrs Sedda) TAG RUGBY CLUB KS2 (3.30-4.30PM) CHOIR (JC-3.30-4.30pm) COMPUTING* (ES- Old ICT Suite- 3.30-4.25pm) SQUASH CLUB** (To be confirmed) GYMNASTICS**** (3.30-4.30pm)	ATHLETICS CLUB Y5/6 (3.30-4.30PM) GIRLS FOOTBALL Y4/5/6 (3.30-4.30PM) HOMEWORK CLUB** (JB-3:30-4:40PM)

* Those clubs marked with an asterix are run by outside providers and their charges may vary. Speak to either the providers directly or the school office for any further details.

Details of all clubs can also be found in the newsletters, on our website or by asking the school office.

Please feel free to make an appointment with your child's class teacher at any time should you wish to discuss progress, attainment or welfare.

Kind regards,

Miss Henderson and Mrs Christie
Class Teachers