



Information For Parents

"Loving God, we ask you to wrap our school family in a cloak of love and protection as our schools reopen this year. Bless our School Family, our Staff and Governors as they continue their good work that they have already begun to ensure a welcoming and safe environment for all. Bless our parents as they again entrust their children, confident we can all work together to help them become the very best they can. Above all, God of Love, we ask you to extend your hand of blessing on our pupils as they joyfully reunite with their friends and all in the School Community. May they continue to progress in their studies and always know they are safe, secure and protected in your loving embrace.

We know much will seem very different again this year, but, Gracious God, we are confident that through the intercession of our own Saints, Saint John Bosco, Our Mother Mary, St Joseph and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, your love and care for each of us will never change. May we show the same love and care for one another in all we do and say this year.

Amen"

(Final Blessing from Federation Prayer Moment, Staff Inset Day, September 1st, 2021)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We extend a huge welcome to all parents new and old as we begin the 2021/2022 academic year at Sacred Heart R.C. Primary School. We hope that you managed to have a relaxing summer, spending time with friends and family.

As we commence the new academic year, we are reminded of our Federation's Mission Statement, which is based on the parable of **'The Mustard Seed and Yeast'** (Matthew 13.31)

"A man took a grain of mustard seed, and sowed it in his field. Indeed, the seed is smaller than all seeds but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches."

At the heart of this parable is the notion of 'growth', that wonderful things can come from the smallest or humblest of beginnings and that each and every one of our children have God given talents that require nurturing and celebrating. In turn, these gifts from God can inspire and motivate others to succeed and to reach their full potential.

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

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

We very much look forward to an enjoyable and rewarding year ahead at Sacred Heart, Battersea, working closely together with our wider school community, our parish and our partner school, St Mary's.



Teaching and Learning in the Reception Classes
Autumn Term 1, September 2021 - Ourselves

Early Years Foundation Stage Prime Areas for learning



Personal, Social & Emotional Development

I will be learning about making new friends and meeting my new teachers. I will remember the things that I like to do at home with my family as well as the things I enjoy learning at school. I will be learning my class rules and my new routines. I will be talking about my family and the favourite things I like to do at home and at school.

Language and Communication

I will begin to develop my communication skills, using a variety of words and forms of expression, and I will try to use full sentences when communicating with others. I will begin to relate my own experiences to others in my group. I will ask questions and give explanations, responding appropriately to the questions of others. I will be learning a range of new songs. I will begin to engage in story times.



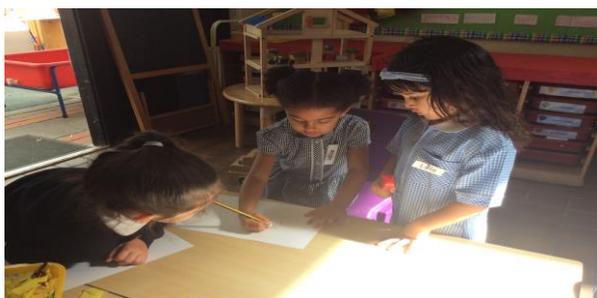
Religious Education

I will be learning about myself as a baby and myself now. I will learn that we are all special and that my name is important. I will learn that God knows and loves each person. I will be learning my daily prayers and begin to learn the Our Father and Hail Mary. I will be learning how to be quiet and respectful during prayer times, to place my hands together in prayer and know the sign of the cross.

Physical Development

I will continue to develop my spatial awareness and hand to eye coordination through a range of activities indoors, outdoors and during P.E sessions. I will be learning about the effects of physical activity on my body and consider what I need to do to keep my body healthy. I will learn to use a range of tools and know how to use them safely. I will begin to think about which foods I like and how to make healthy choices.

Early Years Foundation Stage Specific Learning Areas



Mathematics

I will continue to learn about numbers to count accurately to 10 and beyond. I will develop my counting skills and begin to learn about addition and subtraction, through songs, rhymes and practical activities. I will use a range of mathematical vocabulary to describe shape, size and pattern. I will sort and order objects according to their size, colour, shape and length.



Understanding the World

I will look at pictures of homes and our school. I will name and describe people that we know in school and at home. I can begin to use words to describe what I can see, hear and feel when outside and inside. I will think about my own home and talk about where I live, what my home looks like and what I like to do at home with my family. I will begin to learn how homes are constructed, plan and build my own constructions. I will think about the things I like to do in school and think about what I would like to learn next.

Literacy

Reading-I will listen to and respond to a range of Julia Donaldson stories related to our topic and I will learn to recall and retell a story. I will be learning about the author Julia Donaldson and her stories; exploring them through role play, art, music and literacy.

Writing-I will begin to learn about phonics and how we use letters and sounds to make words and sentences. I will continue to practise writing my name and develop my writing through focused and independent activities.



Expressive Arts and Design

I will role-play my own experiences in the home corner and begin to retell stories through drama. I will learn to use a range of musical instruments and begin to make up my own songs. I will learn a range of painting techniques and will represent my ideas using a variety of materials which I will access independently. I will use resources to create art work stimulated by the Julia Donaldson texts.



Please note that we spend much of our day in the outdoor learning environment so your child will need to wear a coat that they can easily put on and take off by themselves.

| Area of Development | How can I help my child at home? | |
|---|--|--|
| Communication and Language Development | <p>Encourage your child to talk to you about what they did at school today?</p> <p>Encourage your child to speak in full sentences.</p> <p>Encourage your child to develop their listening skills by asking them to recall what has been said to them in conversation.</p> <p>Encourage your child to take turns in conversation – listening is just as important as speaking.</p> | |
| Physical Development | <p>Encourage your child to run and climb, reminding them of ways in which they can keep themselves safe whilst doing so.</p> <p>Encourage your child to run, hop, skip and jump with two feet together.</p> <p>Ask your child to practise balancing on one foot and then the other.</p> <p>Encourage your child to hold a pencil between their thumb and first two fingers in order to develop a good pencil grip.</p> <p>Practise threading pasta onto string together.</p> | |
| Personal, Social and Emotional Development | <p>Encourage your child to talk about the new friends they are beginning to make. What do they enjoy doing together?</p> <p>Reassure your child if they are a little shy, they will soon make new friends. Remind your child that school is a fun and safe place to learn.</p> <p>Emphasise why we encourage sharing, turn taking and good manners.</p> | |
| Religious Education | <p>Encourage your child to talk to you about themselves and who they are within their family.</p> <p>Remind your child that they are a child of God?</p> <p>Do they know that this makes them very special, to their family and to God?</p> <p>Remind your child of how much they are loved by their families and by God.</p> | |
| Literacy | <p>Phonics: Encourage your child to listen to and discriminate between different sounds in the environment e.g. a car, an aeroplane, a hairdryer.</p> <p>Encourage your child to hear and say the first sound in a word, e.g. sand – sss</p> <p>Encourage your child to listen out for rhyming words in rhymes, songs and stories. NB: We will be sharing books written by Julia Donaldson this half term and these fun books are full of rhyme.</p> <p>Reading: Share your child’s reading book with them and try to read a little every day.</p> <p>Try to read picture books with your child as often as possible and encourage them to talk about the story, what happened and why.</p> <p>Writing: Encourage your child to write their own name – please note, children should be encouraged to write a capital letter as the first letter of their name only.</p> | |
| Mathematical Development | <p>Sing number songs and rhymes with your child such as, ‘1, 2, 3, 4, 5, once I caught a fish alive’.</p> <p>Count the number of red/blue cars you see. Practise counting aloud to 10 and beyond if you feel your child is ready, but also to count carefully one item at a time to 5.</p> | |
| Knowledge and Understanding of the World | <p>Talk about school. How do you travel to school?</p> <p>Is school far from or close to home?</p> <p>Talk about the weather and the changes that are occurring as we begin the Autumn season, such as the changing colour of the leaves or cooler, wetter or windier weather.</p> | |
| Expressive Arts and Design | <p>Encourage your child to draw and to talk about their drawings.</p> <p>Model to your child how to draw a simple person with all features – hair, eyes, ears, mouth, body, arms and legs</p> <p>Encourage your child to learn and name colours.</p> <p>Sing songs with your child.</p> | |

| Homework in/out | Tuesday | Friday |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| What? | Maths homework handed in. | Phonics homework handed in. |
| | Phonics homework handed out | Maths homework handed out. |
| | Reading books changed. | Reading books changed. |

Owing to the Covid 19 epidemic and the need to social distance, unfortunately there will be no assemblies or nativities in the Autumn term.

Your child will need to bring their book bag everyday with their name written on the label. Please ensure your child brings his or her reading book to school every day. You may find it useful to attach a small, sensible key ring to your child's bag that will help them to identify it quickly.

We can only give milk to the children who have been registered. If you would like your child to have milk each day please visit the school office for details on how to register

Please ensure your child wears the correct uniform to school and remember to label everything to avoid confusion. Make sure your child does not wear any jewellery, hoop earrings or fancy hair bands to school. The uniform is clearly shown below.

Foundation Stage Uniform (Nursery and Reception)

- Navy blue jogging bottoms with an elastic waist (no belts)
- White polo shirt
- Navy blue school sweatshirt with logo.
- White or navy socks
- Black or white trainers with a Velcro fastening
- Navy blue school coat or dark coloured coat
- Navy blue school book bag – no other bags please. You may attach one small keyring to help your child recognise their bag.
- Grey shorts (boys – Summer term only)
- Blue and white checked dress (Girls - summer term only)

The Foundation Stage uniform is comfortable, practical and appropriate for young children who spend a great deal of time running around, climbing and playing on the carpet as well as at tables both indoors and outdoors.



These are the trainers we need to wear.



This is our school uniform for boys and girls.

Kind regards,
Mrs Williams, Mrs Newman and Mrs Viala
Miss Gates, Miss Foster, Miss Svetlana, Miss Abi and Miss Toni