



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.



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
English	<p>We will link English to our History topic of Victorians. We will be reading <i>Street Child</i> by Berlie Doherty and building on our descriptive writing, in writing a missing chapter. We will be particularly focusing on how to create atmosphere and describe settings through the use of pathetic fallacy and personification.</p> <p>The reading skills we will be developing are: vocabulary development; summarising more than one paragraph; making inferences from the text and explaining and justifying using evidence; retrieving and recording key information from fiction and non-fiction.</p>	<p>Reading with your child is important, even when your child is able to read on their own! Read aloud to your child, modelling the use of expression, tone and volume. Ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding. Do make a note on the child's Reading Record when you have heard your child read.</p>
Maths	<p>Maths lessons this half term will focus on number.</p> <p>Particular emphasis will be placed on mental calculations strategies, fast recall of multiplication and division tables, place value, written calculations for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, problem solving / investigations and mathematical vocabulary.</p>	<p>Keep practising timetables/mental maths and give your child problems to solve mentally on a daily basis. Relate where possible to real life situations. E.g. at the shop, in the car, cooking.</p>
RE	<p>Our topics start with 'Family: Loving' where we shall be teaching unconditional love and related stories from the Bible.</p> <p>This shall be followed by 'Vocation and Commitment' as we explore belonging to the church family.</p>	<p>Set aside a special time each day to read the Bible with your child; start the day thinking about God. Bring your prayer requests before Him and ask for the help you'll need to face the day. End the day with a prayer with Jesus. Reflect on the events of that day, bringing requests before the Lord related to people the children have encountered or situations that are fresh in their mind.</p> <p>Discuss the Wednesday Word as a family. Go to church on Sundays.</p>
Science	<p>Our topic is 'Animals Including Humans' and we will be looking at the circulatory system. We will identify parts and functions of the circulatory system and identify the role of blood in transporting water, nutrients and oxygen around our body. We will learn how to present our findings as graphs and draw conclusions from this. We will also be looking at the impact of exercise, diet and lifestyle on our body's function.</p>	<p>Explore the world with your child and encourage them to ask questions about the world around them; how does my body work? If you don't know an answer, you can always look it up together</p> <p>Eg. What happens on the journey of a blood cell as it travels around the body? What is your pulse rate? Can you make it faster?</p>
History/ Geography	<p>Why was the Victorian Era and Industrial Revolution a significant turning point in British History? We will study the life and legacy of Queen Victoria, the 6 main factors that contributed to the start of the Industrial Revolution and why Britain became known as 'The workshop of the world'. We will look at the growth of</p>	<p>Borrow some information books out of the library to learn more about the life of a Victorian.</p> <p>A highly recommended book: <i>Black and British</i> by David Olusoga.</p>

	industry, agriculture, inventions, transport and trade during this period and the impact this growth had on different groups of people and social classes (with a particular focus on the lives of children). Children will use their historical skills to analyse historical sources and artefacts and draw conclusions from them.	
Computing	We will be using Digital Literacy to create a presentation on the topic of Victorians (website style). We will be looking at animating images and texts in our presentations. The children will learn to use hyperlinks appropriately as well as keeping safe when sharing information.	Bearing E-Safety in mind; allow children positive access to the net and give them the opportunity to surf and explore safe sites with you! (All linked to learning). Learning is no more a passive activity, it's active with applications. For example, like video games, level-based apps can foster a determination to get to the next level. Combining education with entertainment can cause students to forget they are doing school work, and fully immerse themselves in the tasks at hand!
PAThS (PSHE)	Our PAThS programme is designed to facilitate the development of self-control, emotional awareness and interpersonal problem-solving skills. The programme consists of a variety of lessons. This term we will be 'Fostering a Positive Classroom Environment', and developing our 'Study and Organisational skills'. (A must for year 6 preparation)	Continue to encourage your child to talk about their emotions and feelings on a regular basis. Remind them that we all have emotions and that it is quite natural to experience different feelings in our everyday lives. All emotions have a place in our lives, but it is our behaviours linked to specific emotions that shape who we are. Model for your child positive behaviours, when dealing with different emotions.
Music	This half term we will be starting to learn the ukulele – playing chords in rhythm and accompanying some simple songs, whilst also learning a little of the cultural history of the instrument and some basic music theory about the workings of Western harmony.	Celebrate music and realise that learning an instrument is a journey not a destination – enjoy it together and be extremely encouraging. Listen to a variety of music genres, and be open to your child's favoured choice. If the opportunity arises, venture out and experience some live performances!

All teachers at Sacred Heart R.C Primary School follow the homework policy.

In Year 6 we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
English: -Reading -Comprehension -Spellings -Grammar -Reading	Friday	Friday	Set clear routines for reading time and homework. Read with your child. Listen to them read out loud but also read aloud to your child. The children benefit from hearing texts read with appropriate volume, tone and expression. Practise spellings little and often.
Maths: -Times tables - Arithmetic/Reasoning - Mathletics	Times tables will be given daily (Times Table Rocking Stars) Friday Friday	Friday Friday	Practise for the 144 Club daily. Recite your times tables out loud, backwards, written in order and with multiplication and division facts.

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

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 6 is Friday.

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on a Thursday evening.

Kind regards,

Class Teachers Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Garaialde

Support Staff Miss Lisa