



## Information For Parents

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to school after the half term break. We do hope the children are feeling rested and refreshed and ready for the busy half term ahead, which is already packed full of events, including World Climate Day workshops, Remembrance Day services, Parent/Teacher Consultations (via School Cloud), the Wandsworth Football Festival, Year 6 School Journey to Sayers Croft, visits from Chelsea Football, Coco (our reading support dog), the NHS, London Fire Brigade and the Mounted Police. Then of course, over the holy period of December, we will begin Advent preparations in the lead up to Christmas.

And on that note, as the season of Advent approaches, please encourage your children to reflect on the message from Sunday's Gospel and The Feast of All Saints. Encourage them to think about how they can be a 'blessing' to others. As the Wednesday Word states:

"On Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October we celebrate the feast of 'All Saints'- those people whom the church recognises as models of love and who are already in heaven. In this Sunday's Gospel, the blessings which promise happiness are called the Beatitudes and they show us the path that will lead us closer to God. ***The saints tried hard to follow the teaching of the beatitudes in their day-to day lives and Jesus called us to do the same.*** Ask your child what the word 'saint' means to them. Which saints have they heard about? Which one is their favourite and why? Are they, or you, named after a saint or do they know anyone who is named after a saint? Which people do you know who try to follow these teachings and show some of the saintly qualities described in this Gospel?"

***Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to see and admire the saintly qualities in others and help me to grow more like you each day.***

***Amen***

Please also continue to 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)**

**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>This half term we will be focussing on various giraffe texts including Zeraffa Giraffa by Dianne Hoffmeyer. The children will write character descriptions, letters, a story, a book review and a non-chronological report all about Giraffes.</p> <p>The children will write and illustrate a recount of the Nativity towards the end of term.</p> <p>This will be substantiated by daily phonics, guided reading and handwriting practice where the children will be expected to master 'cursive' letter formation.</p>            | <p>Perhaps visit the library, to find books about giraffes and to widen your child's experience of books. This will support your child in all aspects of their writing. Why not visit London Zoo and the giraffe house to learn all about giraffes? What is the most interesting fact you can find out about giraffes?</p> <p>Read every evening at home with your child. Encourage them to use sounding out as their first strategy for reading unfamiliar words and to use intonation and expression.</p> <p>Encourage your child to practise their spellings each week and to make up and write sentences with these words in them so that they can read and understand them in context.</p> |
| Maths   | <p>This half term the children will begin by focusing addition and subtraction. We will cover number bonds to 100 (tens) before adding and subtracting 1s, 10s and eventually learning to use the column method to add and subtract 2- digit numbers from 2-digit numbers.</p> <p>We will move on to a measurement block of learning where we will be covering different coins, notes and values of money. The children will learn to compare, find the total/ difference and calculate change. They will begin two- step problems.</p> | <p>Add and take-away amounts within 20 then 50 then 100 using equipment or pictures. 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?</p> <p>Why not play 'guess my number?'</p> <p>Encourage your child to use Mathletics and TT Rockstars as much as possible (each child has a log in in their reading record) and complete their Maths homework weekly.</p>   |
| RE      | <p>We will continue with our 'Signs and Symbols' topic. We will also touch on Remembrance by discussing why we wear a poppy and making a poppy in Art. The children will learn about Judaism in our 'other faiths' unit of learning. We will cover Shabbat and key symbols of the Jewish faith. Finally, we will be preparing for the birth of Jesus through Advent. We will also be performing and filming a nativity for you to enjoy from home.</p>  | <p>Talk to your child about the importance and significance of Remembrance Day. Why not visit the memorial at Battersea Park? Or visit the war graves in Earlsfield cemetery? Please talk to your child about the Advent candles and what they represent.</p>   |
| Science | <p>This half term, our science topic is 'Habitats'. The children will learn about things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive. Is a tree alive even though it doesn't move?</p>  | <p>Please talk to your child 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</p>  |

|           |   |  |
|-----------|---|--|
|           | They will understand that all living creatures need to live in suitable habitats and explore different marine, land and micro-habitats. We will even make a Year 2 bug hotel! The children will also learn about food chains in this unit.  | Battersea Park or visiting the zoo there?  |
| Geography | This half term our Geography topic is 'What is it like in Kenya?' The children will be able to locate Kenya and England on a world map. They will compare Kenya and England based on their capital cities, location and distance of the equator by identifying their weather patterns. The children will design their own Kenyan National Park focusing on map skills such as using a key and a compass rose. They will explore what a typical day in the life is like for a child in Nairobi and compare this to their own life in Battersea. We will also have a go at some Massai dancing! | Talk to your child about the different continents and climates.<br>Listen to the continent's song at home.<br><br>Why are some countries warmer than others?<br>What are the differences and similarities between Kenya and England?<br>Can your child locate Kenya and England on the world map?  |
| Computing | Year 2 children will focus on information technology. This half term they will create a poster based on our Geography topic. The children will also learn about internet safety.<br><br>We will continue to use iPads to safely interact with age appropriate software.   | Use computing as a medium for finding out facts and for practising phonics, reading and maths skills using websites such as:<br><br><a href="https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/">https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/</a><br><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1">http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1</a><br><a href="http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk">www.oxfordowl.co.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.mathletics.co.uk">www.mathletics.co.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk">www.phonicsplay.co.uk</a> . |
| PE        | Developing the basic fundamental skills, Agility, Balance and Co-ordination and learning to apply these within well-known sports. The focus this term is netball and tag rugby so the children will be developing their footwork & dodging skills, as well as good passing and receiving techniques.  | To help your children at home, you can continue to practise the skills needed for dodging, by playing 'tag' with your child, or practice their throwing and catching skills.   |
| Music     | This half term we will be continuing to learn the recorder - learning the notes B, A and G, and playing some simple children's tunes.   | Listen to music together, talk about what sounds your child can hear and what sort of music they enjoy.  |

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

**In Year 2 we will follow this homework timetable:**

| <b>Subject</b> | <b>Handed out</b>  | <b>Due in on</b> | <b>How you can help</b>  |
|----------------|--|------------------|--|
| Spellings      | Friday   | Friday           | Practise each spelling every evening and ask them to use it in a sentence orally. Please make use of Spelling Shed (each child has a password in their reading record).  |
| Maths          | Friday   | Friday           | Please help your child with the weekly Maths activity – give them counters or beads to help them add and take-away if needed.  |
| English        | Friday   | Friday           | Please read the passage together with your child – if it is a little tricky read it to them and help them to find answers in the text by underlining or highlighting what is important. Children will mark this together with the teacher on Friday so it is a learning opportunity. |
| Reading        | Your child will need to have their reading book and reading record book in school <b>every day</b> . Please check your child's reading record book for changing day when they will be given two new books to read. Encourage your child to use expression when reading aloud which will help them improve their reading fluency and understanding of the text.<br><b>Please sign to say you have read with your child and questioned them about what is happening in the text.</b> |                  |  |

**Owing to the Covid 19 epidemic and the need to social distance, unfortunately there will be no assemblies or nativities in the Autumn term. However, virtual Advent services and Nativities will take place like last academic year.**

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 Wednesday and in uniform with trainers in a bag on Friday.** Any absences from PE need to be explained in a letter.

**PE days for Year 2 are Wednesday and Friday.**

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

Kind regards,

Miss Stott (2S)

Miss Cassidy (2C)

Class Teachers

Intervention teachers and Support Staff