



Information For Parents

“A new year is a new beginning. Each day Lord, you allow me to have a new beginning. Each day Lord, you allow me to start again. Each day Lord, I walk with you-and you carry me.”

(taken from Deacon Michael's reflection to begin the new year; Federation Inset Day, 4th January 2022)

Dear Parents and carers,

A very happy new year to you all! We sincerely hope you managed to have as safe and restful a Christmas break as possible with your friends and families. We wish you and your family a happy and blessed 2022.

As the new year brings resolutions, personal goals and renewed focus, this is a perfect time to remind your child of their targets and areas to improve with their learning. Please support them in achieving these goals by encouraging them to develop their learning behaviours. The [8 learning behaviours](#) we focus on at school are:

Not giving up Being curious Having a go Co-operating Enjoying learning
Improving Using your imagination Concentrating

Good News for Families

Along with encouraging and supporting your child in their learning journey, it is also a very good time for your child to reflect and focus on their *spiritual journey*.

As mentioned in the **Wednesday Word for Advent and Christmas** (in reference to the Gospel of Sunday 9th January 2022-Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22 'The Baptism of the Lord'):

“The new year presents an opportunity to remember, or to discover, the blessings received at Baptism. Ask your child what else they know about baptism. If your child has been baptised, do they know where they were baptised and who baptised them? Do they know their godparents?”

At Jesus' Baptism, the Holy Spirit came down on Jesus making him ready to begin his great work: to draw us all into his family so that we can become more like him and joyfully share in God's own life.

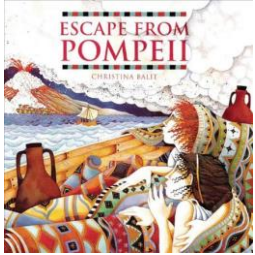
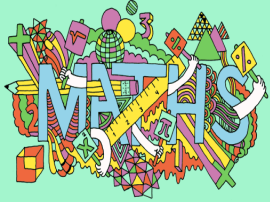

How can we live more like Jesus as we begin this new year? Perhaps we can: always try to help around the home; remember to start each morning with a prayer and thank God for each new day and for each other; make a new start with church; as a family, resolve to support a charity in 2022; be peacemakers and try to make friends with someone we've fallen out with. You may like to choose something new to start together that will strengthen your family.


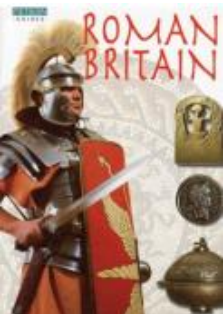


Dear Lord Jesus,





You are God's beloved Son. Thank you for the gift of baptism. May we always remember that we too are the beloved children of God.

Amen

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.
<p>English</p> 	<p>In English this term, we will begin with looking at and responding to the famous poem by Walter de la Mare – The Listeners. We will then move on to reading the book “Escape from Pompeii,” to inspire us to write a narrative story about our escape from Pompeii the day Mount Vesuvius erupted. We will use drama to re-enact the story, focus on writing setting and character descriptions, think about using powerful verbs, use a thesaurus to find synonyms to up level our sentences. We will also be reminding ourselves about Alan Peat’s Exciting Sentences for narrative writing.</p> <p>In our Guided Comprehension lessons, we will continue to develop our reading VIPERS skills, (vocabulary, inference, predicting, explaining and summarising). We will keep up with developing our fluency, expression and prosody when reading out loud, thinking how we read to engage an audience. We will engage with a variety of texts and genres, written by a diverse range of authors and poets.</p>	<p>Support your child at home with their reading, grammar and spelling homework.</p> <p>Please encourage your child to read out loud as often as possible, thinking about fluency, expression and pace, as well as understanding what they are reading.</p> <p>Quiz them on their spellings throughout the week to help them embed new learning and to make learning a fun and enjoyable experience. Please do use the online platform Spelling Shed to help with spellings.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>In Maths, we will be continuing with our multiplication and division focus at the start of the term to secure our knowledge, including multiplying and dividing up to 3 digit numbers. We will then briefly move onto exploring shape and area, where we will explore making shapes and comparing the area of shapes.</p> <p>Towards the end of the term, we will begin to work with Fractions. We will explore adding, subtracting and comparing fractions, as well as calculating fractions of a given quantity.</p>	<p>By the end of Year 4 all children should be secure in their understanding of the four operations, as well as knowing and reciting their times tables and division facts to 12 x 12 with increasing fluency.</p> <p>In order for your child to progress in maths this year, they must practise their tables and division facts daily, determinedly and doggedly.</p> <p>It must not be taken for granted since multiplication underpins so much of the maths curriculum! Rehearse, Rehearse! Rehearse!</p> <p>Please use Mathletics, TTRS and Numbots to support this learning at home.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>Our exploration into R.E leads us to delve deep into the importance of COMMUNITY. We will discuss the importance of belonging to a community through learning about our own local community and how the Parish community serves the Church. We will be learning about the important figures in the community and how each member of the Church community has an impact on the running of the Church. We will apply our knowledge of Community to explain how we can include people and the importance of welcoming people into a community.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to read the Bible.</p> <p>Bible stories can be a great way for teaching children. They have real meaning for anyone who wants to know God better and to learn how he wants us to behave.</p> <p>Discuss the 7 Sacraments! What are they? What is their significance in our lives? Encourage your child to think of people in need and be thankful for all the wonderful things that happen to us.</p> <p>Try your best to attend mass each Sunday.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>This half term we will be focusing on States of Matter, identifying the properties of solids, liquids and gases.</p>	<p>Visit the Science Museum website where interactive resources will make the learning of this fascinating topic a real treat!</p>

	<p>Experiments will lead us to explore why different materials have different properties and how they change on heating and cooling. We will look at separating solids from liquids and seeing what happens to a solid when it dissolves in a liquid. We will also investigate the Water Cycle.</p>	<p>Discuss your child's science learning. Try out some experiments at home, a truly fun way to learn about digestion.</p> <p>Later in the term, log into Developing Experts with your child and explore some of the activities, vocabulary and other fun Science lessons to do with our topic.</p>
<p>History</p> 	<p>We will delve back in time over 2,000 years ago this half term as we study The Roman Empire and the impact it had on the United Kingdom.</p> <p>We will use maps and timelines to understand the meaning, size and timescale of the Roman empire and understand that when we talk about Romans we mean people from anywhere in the Roman empire.</p> <p>We will use historical sources to suggest reasons why the Romans came to Britain and find out about the successes and failures of Caesar and Claudius.</p> <p>We will learn about Boudicca and look at how history has portrayed her in different ways and form our own opinions about her actions.</p> <p>We will justify reasons why the Roman army was so powerful. We will compare and contrast life in Roman Britain with previous knowledge of The Iron Age and Celtic life. We will focus on the changes made by the Romans and the impact on our lives today.</p>	<p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqtf34j</p> <p><i>'To the Roman world, Britain was an unknown and mysterious land across the sea when Julius Caesar invaded in 55–54 BC. Despite inflicting defeats on the British, Caesar soon made peace with his opponents and returned to Gaul. For almost a century afterwards the kingdoms of Britain were kept quiet with gifts and diplomacy.'</i> ~English Heritage Website</p> <p>Together with your child, visit other Museum of London websites, keep an eye out for Roman influences around your city (Roman numerals) or get arty!</p>  <p>You may want to take a trip to the British Museum or the Museum of London to see the impact the Romans have had on our society!</p> <p>There are many lovely books on this subject. Here are a few we recommend:</p> <p><i>The Thieves of Ostia by Caroline Lawrence</i> <i>Meet the Ancient Romans by James Davies</i> <i>Empire's End - A Roman Story by Leila Rasheed</i> <i>So You Think You've Got It Bad: A Kid's Life in Ancient Rome by Chae Strathie & Marisa Morea</i> <i>Romans on the Rampage by Jeremy Strong</i> <i>Queen of Darkness by Tony Bradman</i> <i>A Roman Adventure (The Histonauts) by Frances Durkin & Grace Cooke</i></p>
<p>Italian</p> 	<p>Italian culture: La Befana Four Seasons in music: Winter Week planning Birthday Greetings Months of the year - When? Ask and say the age. The restaurant menu Shops Grammar When? Ask and say the age.</p>	<p>Ask your child what they have learnt in Italian and encourage them to use websites such as BBC bitesize to recall their Italian learning.</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z9qmhyc</p>

	Do you like? How much? Prepositions Possessive adjectives	
Computing 	This term we will develop our Information technology skills to create a fact file on the Romans. We will think about organising our data in a visual way and engage our audiences safely. We will continue to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.	Please ensure you continuously discuss with your child the importance of E-safety (how to stay safe on electronic devices with internet access). Find out what your child hopes to achieve through using ICT. For them to benefit fully it is important to maintain a specific learning focus when using the internet. Help your child to decide what is appropriate for them and to work out what information is unreliable.
PSHE 	This term we will continue our PATHS program, focussing on being active, mental well-being activities, giving to others, being connected and our SH learning behaviours, as well as how to look after our own mental health.	Encourage your child to discuss what they have learnt at school and see if there is something they have learnt at school that you can help them to develop in their home life too.
PE 	This term we will be focusing on netball and basketball, completing drills to enhance their skills in passing, dribbling or shooting using invasion games to develop their teamwork skills. Y5/6 will start to implement tactics in a game situation and understand the positions and rotations of High 5 Netball.	
Music 	This half term we will be continuing to learn the ukulele – playing up to five chords in rhythm and accompanying some simple songs.	

All teachers at Sacred Heart School follow the homework policy.

In Year 4, we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Literacy (May be cross –curricular. Writing with a Science theme, for example)	Wednesday	Monday	Your child may need extra time and/or take longer to finish tasks, so encourage them to do their homework in small chunks over the course of the week rather than all in one night. Help your child to organise the things they need for their homework. Develop a good routine of when homework is done. Give your child a break after school to relax before starting. Try to provide a quiet place and time for homework. Some children may work better with some background music rather than it being quiet. Sitting at a table helps
Reading Please bring reading books to school every day.	Every day for at least 20 minutes.	Daily Reading records will be checked weekly. Please sign your child's reading	Encourage your child to read a variety of things, e.g. books, comics, newspapers, signs. If your child is interested in a particular book, but is unable to read it, please read it to or with them. It would also benefit your child to listen to audio books or e-Books. Your child will need to have their reading book and reading record in school every day. Listen to your child read with expression and talk about the books

		record 3 times a week	they read to support their comprehension. Please sign your child's reading record to say that you have listened to them read. Please also make use of the Rising Stars program that we, as a school, have bought into.
Maths (Daily practise of times tables in preparation for the weekly tests and the statutory Y4 Multiplication Check.)	Wednesday	Monday	Practise multiplication and division facts. Y4 children are expected to know timetables to 12 by heart. REVISE, REVISE, REVISE There are many interactive number games and websites your child could access. Please remember to use Mathletics and Times table rock stars – These sites are particularly geared towards KS2 maths learning!
Weekly spelling tests and times table tests.	Tuesday	Tuesday	Please ensure that your child practises their spellings and times tables every day.

PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have a specialist teacher. Please send your child to school dressed in their PE kits on a Monday. Any absences from PE need to be explained in a letter.

A reminder that if your child is unable to participate in PE owing to sickness, then they are not well enough to come to school.

PE day for Year 4 is Monday.

Please remember to remove your child's ear-rings on a Sunday evening.

Kind regards,

Mrs Parker, Mr Madden, Miss Debbie, Mr Martin and Mr Kevin
Class Teachers and Support Staff