



Term: Spring 2 2024
Year Group: Y2

"I hope that we all will live Lent well, following Jesus and carrying within us a ray of his love for all those we meet."

Pope Francis

Information for Parents

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back after the half-term break. We hope that you and your family had a restful and enjoyable week.

Spring is definitely on its way! The Spring bulbs are out and the days are gradually becoming lighter and warmer.

During this period of Lent, it is a perfect time for the children to reflect upon their personal goals, attitude to learning and the choices that they make at school and at home.

As it states in **The Wednesday Word**, (taken from the Gospel of Sunday 18th February 2024, Mark1:12-15- The 1st Sunday of Lent, Year B):

"Lent is a special time when the church invites everyone to examine their lives, to make Lenten promises and make a fresh start with God and with each other. It is a time to make a change for the better by turning away from things which are wrong for ourselves or others. Ask your child what the word 'Lent' means to them. What has your child been learning at school about Lent and about Lenten promises? You may want to tell your child something that you know about Lent. Each of you say if there is anything you would like to start or stop doing this Lent and then make a Lenten promise. Perhaps you could: give up just five or ten minutes of TV, computer or social media time each day and use that time for extra prayer; make sure to read God's Word in the Bible or in The Wednesday Word each week; go to Church together; fast from a meal or snack and give the money saved to charity. Can you think of anything else-something which will help you to grow in love for God and each other throughout this Lenten season?"

Please help your child to develop positive, life-long learning behaviours at home, as well as in school, by encouraging them to:

- Show **curiosity** and **creativity** by discussing their homework with you, asking questions related to their learning, suggesting ideas and going a little bit deeper by researching a topic and presenting their findings in a creative way.
- Demonstrate **concentration** by finding a quiet area in which to study and organising what they need to complete their homework
- Show **perseverance, resilience and effort**, by trying their best, not giving up when things become a little challenging and completing homework to the best of their ability
- Demonstrate **teamwork** by speaking to their class teacher before the due date if they need assistance or clarification and ensuring that they hand homework in on time, so that they can work together with their teacher and classmates when revising learning and addressing misconceptions.

Dear Lord Jesus, please help me and my family to grow in love and strength during Lent through keeping our Lenten promises.

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
English	<p>Our English text this half term will be 'The Twits' where the children will have ample opportunities to write for different purposes and develop their exciting sentences and grammar. For example, they will write character profiles, a warning poster, instructions, a newspaper front page and a missing chapter.</p> <p>This will be substantiated by reading practice groups, guided reading and handwriting practice where the children will be expected to master 'cursive' letter formation. In guided reading sessions, we will be honing on in different skills such as retrieval, inference, sequencing and prediction using the 'reading dogs'.</p>	<p>Ask your child what they think about 'The Twits'? Does it remind them of anything else that they have read? What is their favourite part? Why? Read some other Roald Dahl stories together so that the children can make comparisons.</p> <p>Read every evening at home with your child. Encourage them to show their fluency, prosody and comprehension skills that they have practised in school that week.</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>We will begin this half term with multiplication and division of the 2, 5, and 10 times tables. The children will have opportunities to solidify their understanding through concrete and abstract representations. We will cover grouping, sharing and odd and even numbers. The children will challenge their understanding of numbers to show commutativity, the inverse and related facts.</p> <p>We will then move on to statistics where the children will learn how to make, draw and interpret tally charts and pictograms. Finally, we will explore properties of 2D and 3D shapes. For example, we will count the sides and vertices of shapes before moving on to lines of symmetry.</p>	<p>Practice Times Table Rockstar's at home to continue to develop fluency with multiplication. Why not practice sharing objects into equal groups?</p> <p>Talk to your child about where you would see tally charts and why they are useful. Why not make a tally chart to represent children's hair or eye colour in their class? Or objects in your home?</p> <p>Ask your child what shapes they can see around them. Try and find as many 2D shapes and how they are related to 3D shapes. For example, can you see a rectangle on a table?</p>
RE	<p>This half term, we will continue to explore Thanksgiving. We will create a class litany which represents what we are thankful for. To finish, the children will create a recipe to represent what they need to follow Jesus' footsteps.</p> <p>The children will then move on to</p>	<p>Ask your child 'What happens the day before Ash Wednesday and why?'</p> <p>Have a discussion with your child about the events leading up to Easter and why it is an important celebration in the church. Why not choose to give something up to celebrate Lent?</p>

	<p>'Opportunities' where they will learn about the celebration of Lent. They will learn that each day offers opportunities for good and Lent is the opportunity to turn towards what is good in preparation for Easter. The children will also take part in Ash Wednesday Mass and learn why it is a special time for Christians.</p>	
Science	<p>This half term, our science topic is 'plants' where the children will practise scientific skills through experimentation and observing their own beans grow!</p>	<p>Can your child identify plants? How do they grow and why are they so important? Try planting some seeds of your own. What about making 'seed bombs' and planting them in public spaces? Observe whether they grow. Why did they grow? Or not? Experiment with growing vegetables from scraps in your home/ windowsill/ garden. What conditions do they need to be successful?</p>
Geography	<p>This half term, the Geography topic is 'What makes our world wonderful'. We will locate the 7 continents and 5 oceans on a world map using an atlas, before creating our own 'globes' with balloons. The children will explore the human and physical features of the continents and identify ways to travel around the world. We will also learn how to identify hot and cold places by referring to atlases, maps and globes. This will really help build the children's geographical skills.</p>	<p>Talk to your child about or look at a world map and where we are located in comparison to other continents. What is similar about the continents? What is different? Why not listen to the continents song? Quiz your child on the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world; what are their human and physical features?</p>
Computing	<p>Computing this half term is linked to our Geography topic 'What makes our world wonderful?' The children will use Chromebooks and the Scratch website to programme a sprite to move, talk and resize.</p>	<p>Ask your child what they have learnt and practise using a computer at home.</p>
PSHE (including RSE and Online Safety)	<p>This half term we will continue to look at different feelings including on self-control. We will use pictures and feelings charts to identify times in which we may feel upset or and focus on how to recognise when we are feeling this way. As a class we will explore our 3 steps for calming down poster and share the story 'Baxter and his Temper' to think about different methods for calming down.</p>	<p>Talk to your child about times in which they may feel angry or upset. Is this a comfortable or uncomfortable feeling? Do they know what causes them to feel this way? Talk to your child about times you also feel this way as an adult and what you do to feel better. Talk to your child about what makes them calm and practise this at home. Could it be singing a song or reading a book? Remind your child of these methods anytime they are feeling this way at home.</p>
DT	<p>Mechanisms- fairground Wheel. This half term, Year 2 will be designing, making and evaluating a Ferris wheel. First, they will explore wheel mechanisms and design a</p>	<p>Hunt for toys with wheels in your home. Ask your child- how does it move? What do you notice? Why is it made from x material?</p>

	Ferris wheel, describing how axels help wheels to move on a vehicle. Then, they will select appropriate materials based on their properties, communicate their ideas to others and plan their build. They will build and test a moving wheel, testing and adapting it to make it rotate and finally, the children will make and evaluate a structure with a rotating wheel.	
PE	Year 2 will be focusing on developing their ball skills through football for Spring 1. Learning to dribble, pass and shoot the ball through a target, as well as increasing their fitness levels through various challenges. They will also continue to develop their balance, co-ordination and match play skills using a variety of invasion games.	Why not practise throwing and catching in the park?
Music	This half term we will be continuing to learn the recorder, adding the notes high D and low E, and reading music notation from the board.	

All teachers at Sacred Heart R.C Primary 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. Spellings tested on Friday.
Maths	Friday	Friday	Please encourage you child to do the Maths fluency sheets as independently as possible. Optional extra is included in the homework pack. This half term we will be doing a weekly Maths test based on what the children have been doing in class. Your child should use 'Numbots' for 30 minutes per week, as set by the class teachers (log in details can be found in your child's reading record).
English	Friday	Friday	Please encourage your child to complete the reading task as independently as possible- if it is a little tricky encourage your child to use their phonics to sound out unfamiliar words and to underline or highlight what is important. There is an optional extra reading task each week.
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. Please sign to say you have read with your child and questioned them about what is happening in the text.		

PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have specialist teachers and coaches. Please ensure your child comes into school in their PE kit on their designated PE day. Any absences from PE need to be explained in a letter.

PE days for Year 2 are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on a Monday and Wednesday evening.

Kind regards,

Miss Stott

Miss MacKay

Class Teachers

Intervention teachers and Support Staff