



## Information for Parents

*"We must live the faith, not only with our words but with our actions."*

**Pope Francis**

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

As we approach Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March) and enter into the period of Lent, it is a perfect time for our children not only to reflect upon their personal goals and their attitude to learning, but also the choices that they make with others at school and at home.

As it states in **The Wednesday Word**, (taken from the Gospel of Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025, Luke 6:39-45-The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C):

*"What did Jesus say 'a good person' does? In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is using parables-short stories-to teach us important lessons. Just as good fruit is a sign of a good tree, so our words and actions show what is truly inside our heart. Ask your child what the saying, 'Actions speak louder than words' means to them.*

*Tell your child about a time when someone was a really good friend or neighbour to you because of something they did. Then ask your child if they can remember a time when someone was really good to them.*

*This Gospel also reminds us not to criticise others' actions but rather to look at our own actions and try to grow in goodness. Decide on some kind of action that you could take to show your love for God and others.*

*Perhaps you can: visit a person who may need your help; try to be humble and truthful about any of your own faults; say sorry to one another for anything you have done wrong; help around the home more; offer to help out with a voluntary project; resist being quick to criticise; always try to look for the good in others; remember to be understanding, compassionate, caring and speak kindly of others."*

*"Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak."*

**St Anthony of Padua**

**Dear Lord Jesus,**

**Please help us to be good friends to our family, our neighbours and all who we meet through our words and actions.**

**Amen**

We will continue to **guide** our children in their learning and the choices they make, as they grow and develop, via our **Sacred Heart Ethos**, which has been drawn from our Federation Mission Statement (**The parable of the Mustard Seed, Matthew 13:31**), Gospel values, Catholic Social Teaching (CST) principles and learning behaviours.

Our **Sacred Heart Ethos** has been structured using the **SACRED** acronym:

**S: Service**

**A: Affection and Appreciation**

**C: Consideration and Co-operation**

**R: Reflection and Reconciliation**

**E: Endeavour and Enjoyment**

**D: Dignity**





<b>Service</b>	Helping others and the world (Being 'Pilgrims of the Earth'); We are guardians of God's creation. ( <a href="#">CST link/s-Stewardship</a> ; <a href="#">Preferential Option for the Poor</a> ; <a href="#">Distributive Justice</a> )
<b>Affection and Appreciation</b>	Showing loving kindness and care; being thankful for each other and the world around us. ( <a href="#">CST link/s-Solidarity</a> ; <a href="#">The Common Good</a> )
<b>Consideration and Co-operation</b>	Showing thoughtfulness, thinking about the views of others, and working together for the common good in school and the wider world. ( <a href="#">CST link-Subsidiarity</a> , <a href="#">Distributive Justice</a> )
<b>Reflection and Reconciliation</b>	Always being honest, listening to others, reflecting on choices & showing forgiveness and friendship. ( <a href="#">CST link/s-Promoting Peace</a> ; <a href="#">Participation</a> )
<b>Endeavour and Enjoyment</b>	Always trying our best and finding joy in all that we do, for both ourselves and others. ( <a href="#">CST link/s The Common Good</a> )
<b>Dignity</b>	Recognising that everyone is special and unique-valuing and respecting ourselves and others ( <a href="#">CST link/s Human Dignity</a> ; <a href="#">The Common Good</a> )




Please also support your child in achieving their academic 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**



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	This half-term, our English lessons will be centred around the exciting and adventurous book Shackleton's Journey. Through this engaging story, the children will dive into the incredible tale of Ernest Shackleton's ill-fated expedition to Antarctica. They will have the opportunity to engage with the plot, make predictions about what might happen to the ship, and explore the challenges faced by	Support your child at home with their reading, grammar and spelling homework.  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.  Quiz them on their spellings

	<p>Shackleton and his crew.</p> <p>As part of our activities, the children will write a letter home as though they are Shackleton, imagining what he might have written to his family during the journey. This will allow them to practice their creative writing skills while exploring the historical context of the expedition.</p> <p>To conclude this half-term, each student will write an independent piece—a newspaper report about the journey of the ship, summarising the key events and reflecting on Shackleton’s leadership.</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>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>This half-term in mathematics, we will be focusing on multiplication and division. The children will be learning how to multiply numbers by 10 and 100, as well as how to divide numbers by 10 and 100. They will also be discussing factors and learning how to multiply a 1-digit number by a 2-digit number, and a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number. In addition, we will practice dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number and a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number.</p> <p>As part of this, we will also focus on helping the children learn how to multiply efficiently, developing their ability to solve problems with greater speed and accuracy. Furthermore, we will be dedicating time to solidifying the children’s times tables knowledge to ensure they are well-prepared for the upcoming multiplication check in</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><b>It must not be taken for granted since multiplication underpins so much of the maths curriculum! Rehearse, Rehearse! Rehearse!</b></p> <p>Please use Mathletics and TTRS to support this learning at home.</p>

	June.	
RE 	<p>We will complete the topic of Giving and Receiving. We will discuss why it is important to give as well as receive. We will understand why it is important to love our enemies as much as we love our friends and how we can live in harmony with one another, relating to various scriptures. We will relate this to the Catholic Social Values that we promote across the school. We will discuss the introductory rite and the concluding rite and why they are important.</p> <p>We will then move on to our next topic of Self Discipline to prepare us for Easter.</p> <p>We will look at Lent and the sacrifices Jesus made and how we need to love others because Jesus first loved us. We will look at how Christians follow Jesus' teaching.</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>
Science 	<p>Our focus in Science this half-term will continue to be on the fascinating topic of Changes of Matter. The children will explore key concepts such as:</p> <p>Evaporation and Condensation: Understanding how water changes from liquid to gas and vice versa.</p> <p>The life and work of Scientist Celsius: Learning about the scientist who contributed to the temperature scale we use today.</p> <p>The Water Cycle: Exploring the continuous movement of water on, above, and below the Earth's surface.</p>	<p>Visit the Science Museum website where interactive resources will make the learning of this fascinating topic a real treat!</p> <p>Discuss your child's science learning. Try out some experiments at home, a truly fun way to learn about digestion.</p>
Geography 	<p><b>Invaders and settlers</b></p> <p>In this unit, children head back in time to find out how the towns and cities of the UK first developed.</p> <p>Children will learn about the needs and requirements early settlers had when choosing a place to build a home. They will look at place names around the UK to see how the Anglo-Saxons, Romans and Vikings all left their mark.</p> <p>Through use of digital and paper maps, children will investigate land use in</p>	<p>Visit the local library and immerse your child in books, videos, interactive websites, comics and artefacts about the local area and looking deeply into how London became a key settlement.</p> <p>Useful websites:  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zx72pv4/articles/zrbvjhv">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zx72pv4/articles/zrbvjhv</a>  BBC – KS2 – Settlements  <b><u>Milestones</u></b>  To know what early settlers needed and to explain why settlements</p>

	<p>different sized settlements and the ways in which settlements are linked together.</p> <p>To finish off the topic and showcase all that the children have learnt, they will be planning and creating their own settlement.</p>	<p>develop in certain locations.</p> <p>To use maps (including digital) and atlases to identify settlements built by invaders.</p> <p>To compare land use in different settlements.</p> <p>To use maps, including the use of ordnance survey maps and knowledge of the 8 compass points, to identify links between settlements.</p> <p>To create a map of a settlement, consolidating their knowledge by considering human and physical features such as land use, food, water, economic activity/trade links, natural resources (including energy)</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>This term in computing we are going to be using a MicroBit computer and programming it on the Chromebooks to support us with computer science skills. The children will be using trial and error to test their programs and predict what their program can do.</p>	<p>Please ensure you continuously discuss with your child the importance of E-safety (how to stay safe on electronic devices with internet access).</p> <p>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.</p>
 <p>PSHE (including online safety)</p>	<p>Talk about feelings: Encourage your child to share their thoughts and emotions. Discuss topics like empathy, kindness, and how to manage difficult emotions.</p> <p>Healthy Relationships: Talk about what makes a good friend and the importance of respect in relationships.</p> <p>Personal Safety: Ensure your child understands the concept of safe and unsafe situations and how to seek help when needed.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>DT</p> 	<p>This half term we will be focusing on design and technology. We will be following the process of plan, make and evaluate to create a sling shot car.</p> <p>The skills that will be developed are:</p> <p>Designing a shape that reduces air resistance.</p> <p>Testing and improving the designs.</p>	<p>You can support your child at home by being creative with recycling and practice making some 'junk models' of famous landmarks of your choosing.</p> 

	Collaborative teamwork.	
PE 	<p>This half term we will be covering gymnastics and dance, developing their strength, flexibility, balance, co-ordination and creativity. They will learn to execute forward and backward rolls accurately and with good technique, strengthen their ability to hold their body weight through counter balancing and handstands and power moves using a spring board and vault.</p> <p>In dance, the children will develop their skills in following sequences and linking moves together with music.</p>	
Music 	<p>This half term we will be continuing to learn the ukulele – playing the chords G, F, C, D7 and Amin, reading ukulele tablature, and playing in simple rhythms to accompany songs.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to learn an instrument, and listen to the many different genres of music that exists, ranging from classical all the way through to pop.</p>

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

In Year 4 we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
<b>English</b> (May be cross-curricular. Writing with a Science theme for example	Wednesday	Monday	<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>
<b>Reading</b> Please bring reading books to school every day.	Please read for 15 minutes a day.	Please read for 15 minutes a day.	<p>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.</p> <p>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 they read to support their comprehension.</p> <p>Please sign your child's reading record to say that you have listened to them read. Reading records will be checked every Thursday.</p>
<b>Maths</b> (Includes daily	Wednesday	Monday	<p>Practise multiplication and division facts. Y4 children are expected to know timetables to 12 by heart. REVISE,</p>

practise of times tables in preparation for the weekly tests.)			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!
<b>Weekly spelling tests and times table tests.</b>	Wednesday	Tuesday	Spelling tests will take place on a Wednesday. Times tables tests will be conducted on a Thursday.  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 specialist teachers and coaches. Please send your child in wearing his or her PE kit on Friday. Please remember that the school rule is 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 Friday.

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

Kind regards,

Miss Smith, Mrs Kean, Ms Debbie, Miss Chelsea and Miss Courtney.