



A prayer for our children as they embark on a new academic year

*Dear Lord,
Open my eyes to see new friends.
Open my ears to hear my teacher.
Open my mind to learn new things.
Open my hands to help others.
Open my mouth to speak kind words.
Open my heart to love like You.
I know You are always with me when I'm at school.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.*

Dear Parents and carers,

We extend a very warm welcome to all families as we begin the 2025/2026 academic year at Sacred Heart R.C. Primary School, Battersea. We hope that you managed to have a relaxing summer, spending quality time with friends and family.

As we commence the new academic year, we are prompted to reflect on 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 both the reading and the 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.

This academic year we will continue to guide our children in their learning and the choices that they make, via our **Sacred Heart Ethos**, which was 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** uses the **SACRED** acronym:

S: Service

A: Affection and Appreciation

C: Consideration and Co-operation

R: Reflection and Reconciliation

E: Endeavour and Enjoyment

D: Dignity

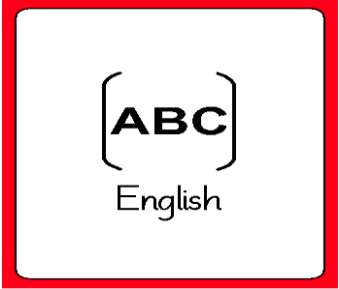
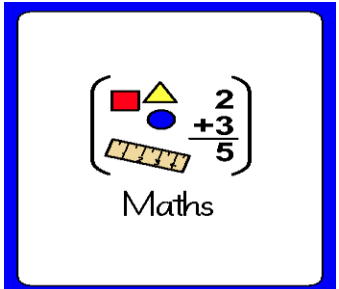
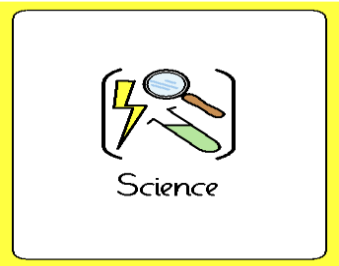


Service	Helping others and the world (Being 'Pilgrims of the Earth'); We are guardians of God's creation. (CST link/s-Stewardship ; Preferential Option for the Poor ; Distributive Justice)
Affection and Appreciation	Showing loving kindness and care; being thankful for each other and the world around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

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**

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.

Subject	Learning
	Our focus topic for this half term we will be looking at the story 'The 3 Little Pigs'. We will use this as our theme throughout all our learning to map language. This will include sensory stories and interactive story activities to engage all learners. For those that are ready will be retelling stories, identifying vocabulary and working on our transcription and mark making skills. We will continue developing our join attention and concentration skills. This is through a range of intervention including Attention Autism. We are working to develop our communication skills through intensive interaction sessions. We are developing our phonetic awareness through phonics lessons and nursery rhymes. All learning will be bespoke to each child's developmental level.
	This half term our topic will be continuing with 'Number' looking at representation and numerals. This will be through listening and practical activities. We will be looking at numbers within 10 and we will be counting and applying understanding of quantities in real-life situations. For those that are ready will be also move onto addition. All teaching will take place through practical activities and documented learning, pitched at each child's individual learning level. We will additionally use a TEACCH structure to explore our understanding in maths, phonics and English. This will help children gain independence in their learning and the value of accomplishing a task.
	This half term our topic will be 'Materials'. We will be looking at materials in the world and why materials are fit for purpose. This language will include 'straw, wood, brick' and using 'soft, hard and strong'. All science learning will be taught through practical activities, stories and the use of our communication app. This theme will also be reflected throughout our continuous provision and art lessons.
	We will continue to explore apps that help improve the children's Fine Motor and Communication skills. For those that are reading we will also enjoy interactive phonics games and early typing skills.
	All of Hilary House will be learning to manage their emotions using the Zone of Regulations. This half term will be focusing on labelling our feelings and that all feelings are valid.

 PE	Will be using a variety of different apparatus to help aid co-ordination and balance. Children will be introduced to equipment such as ribbons, balls, racquets, tags, and smaller items to help with fine motor skills.
 Music	This half term we will be singing songs with actions, clapping in time and following a beat on an instrument. Additionally, we have singing sessions throughout the day.

Please ensure your child comes into school in their PE kit on their designated PE day.

PE days for Blue Class are Friday.

Kind regards,

Miss Coombs, Miss Kelly, Miss Flora, Miss Judith, and Miss Nikki.