



Information for parents

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"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin. "

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Making a new start

Dear Parents and carers,

A very happy new year to you all! We hope you managed to have a relaxed and restful Christmas break with your families and friends. We wish you and your family a blessed 2026.

As the new year brings resolutions, personal goals and renewed focus, this is a perfect time to remind your child of their targets from Parent/Teacher consultations, which took place in November. Please support your child 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**

As mentioned in the *Wednesday Word*, (in reference to the Gospel for Sunday 11th January 2026-*Matthew 3: 13-17 The Baptism of the Lord*):

"January is traditionally the month of beginnings-a time for making a new start. In Church this Sunday we celebrate a special feast-The Baptism of the Lord.

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist didn't see the need to baptise Jesus, because Jesus was sinless. But Jesus insisted because he wanted to stand alongside the community-to help them make a new start and give them an example to follow.

Jesus, God's beloved Son, came for everyone to draw us all into his family so that we can become more like him and joyfully share in God's own life...

This new year presents an opportunity for us to make a new start. Ask your child if they have made any new starts in 2026. If so, how is it going? It may help your child if you mention any new starts or resolutions which you have made for 2026 and tell them how it's going for you. How does your new start help you or others? As we begin this new year, are there any new starts that we can make with our family, friends or with God?"

Dear Lord Jesus,

*Please help me to be always ready to make a new start with you and with each other, as we start this New Year
Amen*

In school, we will also be helping our children to make 'a new start' by encouraging them to make choices that are aligned with our **Sacred Heart Ethos**.

Our Sacred Heart Ethos is structured using the **SACRED** acronym:

S: Service

A: Affection and Appreciation

C: Consideration and Co-operation

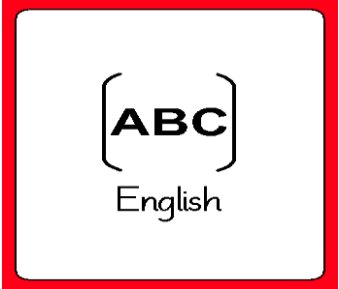
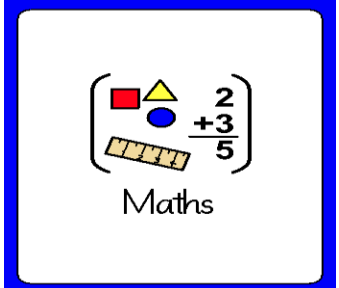
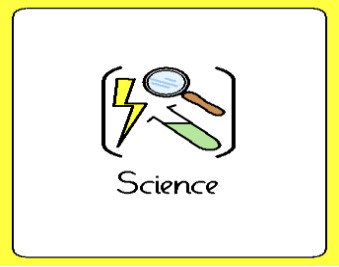
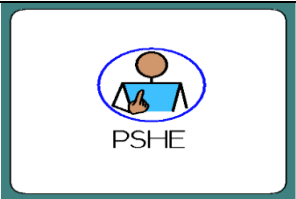
R: Reconciliation

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)
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)

Here is a brief outline of what your child will be learning about this half term.

Subject	Learning
	Our focus topic for this half term we will be looking at the story 'Little Red Riding Hood'. 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 'Patterns. This will be through recognising and completing patterns. The children will take part in listening and practical activities. We will continue to expand on our understanding of number. 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 and subtraction. 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 we will continue our topic will be 'Animals including humans'. We will be looking at woodland animals and their habitats. We will also be looking at seasons with a focus on Winter. 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.
	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

 PE	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. We will also be learning nursery rhymes with Makaton actions.

PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have specialist teachers and coaches.

PE days for Blue Class are **Friday**.

Kind regards,

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