



Information for parents

"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)



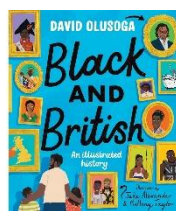
This term, we will be reading *The Promise* by Nicola Davies. Children will write a **persuasive letter** to keep our local park open and create a poster encouraging others to keep it clean.

In reading lessons, we will use guided comprehension to explore a range of texts, including book extracts, poems, non-fiction and song lyrics, using the VIPERS skills (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, Sequence, Summarising). Pupils will develop their vocabulary, improve their comprehension answers, and build fluency and expression when reading aloud across the curriculum.



UKS

This half term, we will prepare to write a **newspaper report** and a series of postcards/letters from the viewpoint of a passenger on the *Empire Windrush*, exploring their changing emotions as they settle in Britain.



We will read extracts from *Windrush Child* by Benjamin Zephaniah, which tells the story of a boy's journey from Jamaica to England and his experiences growing up in Manchester.

In reading lessons, pupils will continue to develop fluency and expression through modelled and paired reading. Guided Comprehension sessions will focus on vocabulary, retrieval, prediction, inference, explanation (Point, Evidence, Explain), summarising and sequencing.

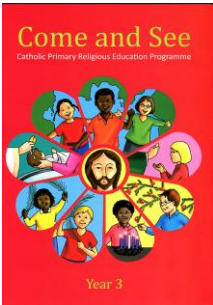
their grammar and spelling homework where possible.
-Listen to them read daily for at least 20minutes, encouraging expression as well as intonation. Ask relevant questions about the text that has been read to you to check your child's comprehension.

LKS

Research around the importance of green spaces for our climate, and discuss what happens when they are removed.

UKS

Read the newspaper with your child! Discuss the features and language used.

Maths 	LKS This term we will be looking at right angles. To be able to recognise right angles as a property of shape or a description of a turn, and identify right angles in 2D shapes presented in different orientations. how we stay connected through digital devices. UKS This half-term in Maths, we will be continuing with our topic of Decimals. In particular, multiplying and dividing decimals by integers. We will then progress to our next topic, Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. This will involve finding percentages of amounts and finding equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages.	Continue to engage in the wonderful interactive educational platforms of TTRS, HIT THE BUTTON. Daily practice of times tables and basic arithmetic (column multiplication, long division) will impact positively on your child's sense of number as they progress in their year 6 maths journey.
RE 	This half term we will focus on the giving unit in preparation for Lent and Easter. We will be thinking about how different people give in their lives and what we can give also.	To help your child at home discuss the importance of being a giver and foster a sense of gratitude.
Science 	This term we are continuing our plant studies. We are looking closely into what a plant needs to grow and what would happen if we removed one of the key variables.	Encourage your child to observe different plants and leaves that you can see in gardens and parks. Question them about the different parts' functions.
History/ Geography	This term we are continuing with our focus on our local area, Battersea. In History, we will be focusing on how buildings in Battersea have changed over time. In Geography, the focus will be on how people spend their	Explore the local area, and discuss how you spend your time and why? Discuss what Battersea used to look like, how are the buildings different? Why do you think the buildings are different? Explore the local library or online

	time in their local area.	to gather information about John Archer and question about why he is a significant person in the local area.
Computing 	This term's focus is computer networks and digital devices – how do they work? We will be learning about the input and output of a device and designing our own 'function machines'. We will be learning how we stay connected through digital devices.	Remind children about how to stay safe online. Go through rules as a family about acceptable and unacceptable things to do online when playing on games/apps and websites, and communicating with friends on the net. Reinforce appropriate and correct procedures to follow!
PE 	We will be focusing on football in Spring 2, completing drills to enhance their skills in passing, dribbling and shooting using invasion games to develop their teamwork skills.	Together, find out about the 3 main gymnastic events, watch gymnast via the internet!
Art	Our art topic this term is 'Growing Artists'. We will be using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space in their work. The aim is to recognise that a combination of materials can achieve the desired effect.	Practice using different drawing materials at home in a variety of ways to enhance a drawing.
Dance	This half term, we're excited to be taking part in a Dance Project every Tuesday afternoon! Our fantastic dance teacher, Laura, will lead an engaging one-hour session each week, where the children will explore movement, learn new dance steps, and develop their creativity through space and expression. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to build confidence, coordination, and teamwork while having lots of fun. At the end of the unit, we will	

	celebrate all their hard work with a special dance performance , and families will be warmly invited to come and watch the show. We can't wait to share what we've been working on with you!	
PSHE (including online safety)	This term we will continue our new PSHE syllabus, following the Ten:Ten plus scheme of learning. Helping to embed the Christian values with understanding their religion and living in the wider world. These sessions will help children to identify more complex relationships in their lives, including family, friends and other people, and explore how to relate to people within these different relationships. Children will also discuss what it means to be a good friend and learn some strategies to use when relationships become difficult.	Encourage your child to discuss what they have learnt at school and see if there is anything they have learnt at school that you can help them develop in their home life too.

In Green Class we follow this timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
English	Friday	Thursday	Bitesize is a website that can be used to familiarise yourself/your child with grammar and vocabulary. Support your child in their GPS and comprehension activities.
Maths	Friday	Thursday	Support your child to practice their times tables regularly. Sit down with your child and support them as they complete their homework to consolidate learning. Allow your child to use websites to support their learning e.g. TT Rockstars.
Reading	Every day	Every day	Every day for at least 15/20 minutes. 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 they read to support their comprehension. Please sign your child's reading record to say that you have listened to them read.

Spellings	Every day	Every day	Friday - Spelling test
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PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have specialist teachers and coaches. Please send your child in with his or her PE kit on Friday for Green Class and on their PE day for their year class.

PE days for year classes are as shown:

YEAR 3	Tuesday
YEAR 4	Friday
YEAR 5	Monday
YEAR 6	Wednesday
HH PE	Friday

Please remember to remove your child's earrings the day of PE

Kind regards,
Miss Siddall
Ms Chowdhury
Miss Lisa
Miss Stephanie
Miss Svetlana