



Information to Parents

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



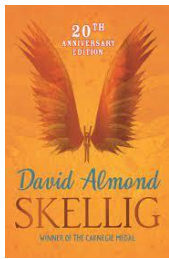
Service	Helping others and the world (Being 'Pilgrims of the Earth'); We are guardians of God's creation. (CST link/s-Stewardship; Preferential Option for the Poor; Distributive Justice)
Affection and Appreciation	Showing loving kindness and care; being thankful for each other and the world around us. (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.

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 	We are reading 'Skellig' By David Almond. Our main piece of writing will be Diary entry capturing Michael's (the main character) frustrations and opinions of his new house comparing them with his hopes and the actual reality in which he lives. Also, we will be writing a balanced argument about home-schooling based on Mina's experience. In Guided Comprehension we will be covering a range of texts, focussing on developing 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 about 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.	Read with your child every day. Talk about the book with your child. Ask them what they think will happen next, which character they like the most and why, what new words they learnt etc. The discussion that comes from reading is incredibly beneficial and important! It really helps the children's comprehension skills which can be transferred in class.
Maths 	This half term, we are following the NCETM curriculum to deepen children's understanding of decimal fractions and money. Pupils will be developing key mathematical skills through carefully sequenced learning steps: Recognising and understanding decimal place value, especially the relationship between tenths, hundredths and whole numbers Using knowledge of number bonds and place value to compare, order and round decimal numbers Exploring the structure of our monetary system, making links between decimals and money (e.g. £ and p) Applying reasoning and problem-solving skills to real-life money contexts, including mental and written calculations involving addition and subtraction of decimals. Through rich tasks and discussion, children will be encouraged to explain their thinking using precise mathematical language, represent problems in different ways (e.g. place value charts, number lines), and make connections across mathematical ideas.	Put addition and subtraction into real life! This is especially relevant when using money. Ask your children how much change you will get. When shopping, ask your child if an item for £3.45 is closer to £3 or £4. How much does a car cost? How much does a house in central London cost? Useful websites: TT Rockstar's coolmath-games.com

RE 	Our topic this term is 'Ourselves'. We will be looking at the importance of 'family' and those special people in our lives. We will get to know ourselves on a deeper level, appreciating that our value and uniqueness are central to our well-being. We will think about the qualities that God wants us to develop and how we are called for service, which sometimes takes courage. We aim to understand that God is the 'gift giver' and understand that he is a loving parent to us all.	Encourage your child to read the Bible. Bible stories can be great for teaching children. They have real meaning for anyone who wants to understand God and how He wants us to act. Encourage your child to think of people in need and be thankful for all the wonderful things that happen to us.
Science 	Forces: we will look at a range of different forces: gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. We will develop an understanding of balanced and unbalanced forces and carry out experiments to see which variables change the effect of the force in question.	Parents can take opportunities to ask, "What would happen if...?" questions or present brainteasers to encourage children to be inquisitive and seek out answers. Children need to know that science isn't just a subject but it is a way of understanding the world around us. Visit: http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/
PSHE (including online safety) 	Our PATHs programme is designed to facilitate the development of self-control, emotional awareness and interpersonal problem-solving skills. The programme consists of a variety of lessons. This term we will be formulating classroom rules, learning how to work co-operatively in small groups, learning all about the golden rule (treat others the way you want to be treated). Finally focusing on feelings, through developing the children's ability to recognise and label different feelings and emotions, as well as exploring the best way to respond to these. In Online Safety, we will be focusing on Self-image and Identity children will learn how their identity online can be copied, modified or altered. Also, they will demonstrate how to make responsible choices about having an online identity, depending on context.	Continue to encourage your child to talk about their emotions and feelings on a regular basis. Remind them that we all have emotions and that it is quite natural to experience different feelings in our everyday lives. All emotions have a place in our lives, but it is our behaviours linked to specific emotions that shape who we are. Model for your child positive behaviours, when dealing with different emotions.
Geography 	Our unit question this term in Geography is who are our European neighbours? Children will locate Europe on a world map and name some countries and cities in the 4 different regions of this continent. They will describe the physical features in Europe and compare two contrasting regions. Find key human characteristics in Europe. Furthermore, we will be	Visit the local library and immerse your child in books, videos, interactive websites, comics and artefacts about Europe. Useful website: BBC bitesize KS2 Geography This website has loads of information not only about Europe but also all the key

	gathering data to compare the climate in Eastern Europe with the climate of the UK also they will be researching research places in eastern Europe and compare with London/Battersea. Finally, we will discuss the impact of Chernobyl and how land use has changed over time.	geography skills the children learn in Key stage 2.
Computing 	Year five's focus in Computing this term is digital literacy. The children will be creating a website style presentation using a template to help with this process. Furthermore, the children will be ensuring that all their information in their presentation is accurate (fact checking).	
Art 	In Art this term we will be creating portraits using paints and mixed media. Children will outline a portrait drawing with words, varying the size, shape and placement of words to create interest. They will try a variety of materials and compositions for the backgrounds of their drawings. Communicate to their partner what kind of photo portrait they want. Show that they are making decisions about the position of a drawing on their background, trying multiple ideas. Create a successful print. Use some Art vocabulary to talk about and compare portraits. Identify key facts using a website as a reference. Explain their opinion of an artwork. Experiment with materials and techniques when adapting their photo portraits. Create a self-portrait that aims to represent something about them. Show they have considered the effect created by their choice of materials and composition in their final piece.	
PE 	The sports this term are netball and tag rugby with children developing the key skills needed to play in each of these sports; passing and receiving the ball, good balance and footwork, attacking and defending skills. Y5 & Y6 will continue to develop their positioning within a game and start to develop match play tactics in order to outwit their opponents. To help your children at home, you can continue to practice the skills needed for netball and tag rugby, such as; throwing and catching using a variety of passes, chest, shoulder, bounce for netball and a two-handed backwards pass for rugby.	
Music	This half term we will be starting to learn about the history and theory of 20th century popular music - the structure and cultural background of popular song, following its evolution from African American blues, call and response, and gospel, through to the evolution of rock'n'roll.	

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

In Year 5, we will follow this homework timetable.

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
English • SPAG • Spellings • Comprehension	Friday	Thursday	Complete a little homework each day. Spellings need to be practised daily. Spelling Shed three times a week for 10 minutes. Spelling test is on a Wednesday.
Maths • TTRS • Maths homework • Times tables	Friday	Thursday	Practice timetables daily. TTRS for five minutes a day.

Reading • Accelerated Reader quizzes	Daily		Read with your child daily. Check their understanding of the text by asking them questions about what they have just read.

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

PE day for Year 5 is Friday.

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

Kind regards,

Miss Leaning, Mr Thomas, Miss Keisha and Miss Crystal.