



Term: Spring 1 2026
Year group: 6

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

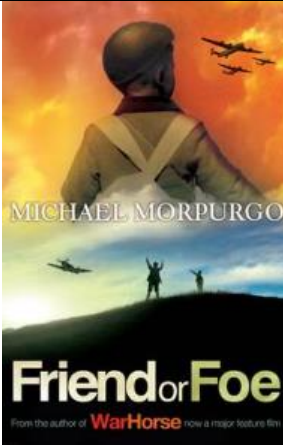
R: Reconciliation

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)

English	This half term we will be writing	Support your child at home with
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	diary entries from the viewpoint of a London child evacuee during WW2- using the gripping World War II story, 'Friend or Foe' (by Michael Morpurgo) as a stimulus. We will also use this book (along with our History learning of WW2) to write a Balanced argument. We will identify the main structural, grammatical and language features of these genres and will plan, draft, proof-read and edit our final pieces of work. To support our learning further, we will be continuing to use Alan Peat's Exciting Sentences, to help pupils to write more varied sentences that engage the reader and reinforce correct sentence structure, grammar and punctuation. Within reading, we will be continuing to develop pupils' reading fluency and expression when reading aloud via modelled, choral, echo and paired reading. In Guided Comprehension, we will continue to refine the following skills, based on NC reading domains: word meaning/vocabulary building; fact retrieval, prediction, inference, explanation (via the strategy of 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. Read to you child too (even in Year 6!). Modelling and then reading together really helps to improve fluency and expression and to help build your child's sight vocabulary and comprehension. Do make a note in your child's Reading Record when you have heard them read. Encourage your child to explain what they have read via the P.E.E method P-Make a point E-Provide the evidence E-Explain your reasoning An easy mnemonic to help pupils to remember the reading skills they need to develop is VIPERS: VOCABULARY INFERENCE PREDICTION EXPLANATION RETRIEVAL SUMMARISING/ SEQUENCING
Maths 	Maths lessons this half term will focus on Ratio, Algebra and Decimals. We will be applying prior knowledge from our previous topic (Fractions) by finding both the ratio and fractions of different variations. During our algebra topic , students will be solving one step and two step equations.	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	Our topic this half term is The Bible. We will be deepening our	Set aside a special time each day to read the Bible with your child;

	understanding of the Bible as the story of God’s love, told by the People of God. We will also explore the many books of the Bible and the purpose for which they were written. Children will continue to work on their skills of finding various scriptures in The Bible and being able to justify why they are in the Old Testament or the New Testament. During this topic, pupils will acquire the skills of being able to respond, celebrate and apply their personal life choices to the word of the Lord. Remembering that the Bible recounts God’s invitation to us to share and spread his love.	start the day thinking about God. Bring your prayer requests before Him and ask for the help you’ll need to face the day. End the day with a prayer with Jesus. Reflect on the events of that day, bringing requests before the Lord related to people the children have encountered or situations that are fresh in their mind. Try your best to attend Sunday mass!
Science  	This half term in Year 6, our science topic is <i>Light</i>. Children will explore how light travels and investigate the idea that light moves in straight lines. Through practical experiments, they will learn how light reflects, how shadows are formed, and why shadows change size and shape depending on the position of the light source. Pupils will also study fascinating light phenomena such as rainbows and the Northern Lights, learning how these natural effects are created. They will explore refraction by carrying out experiments to see how light bends when it passes through different materials, such as water or glass. Throughout the topic, children will develop their scientific skills by planning and carrying out experiments, making careful observations, recording results, and drawing	Science “happens” all around us every day, and you have endless opportunities to invite your child into the wonders of science. Without expensive chemistry sets, equipment or kits, your child can be introduced easily to the natural world and encouraged to observe what goes on in that world. There is truly a wealth of information online about the topic of light. Together with your child, you may also want to visit the Science Museum, which has a wealth of interactive hands-on resources that will engage, inspire and quench your child’s thirst for knowledge. https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

	conclusions.	
History 	In History this term, we will deepen our understanding of the Second World War. Pupils will explore key historical questions that historians around the world continue to examine. These include: when and why the Second World War took place, and why Britain went to war in 1939. We will consider the difficult dilemmas faced by Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and explore why it was necessary for children to be evacuated. Children will also investigate how Britain was able to stand firm in the face of the German threat, as well as what life was like for people on the Home Front. They will learn how individuals adapted to wartime conditions and attempted to continue with 'normal' daily life. Finally, pupils will reflect on why it can be challenging for historians to fully understand what life was really like during this period.	To support your child's History knowledge and understanding, visit the National History Museum; The Imperial War Museum or the Churchill War Rooms. The children could also be encouraged to bake with rationed ingredients, or to try out some WW2 recipes? This would give them a real taste of WW2 life!
Computing 	Information Technology This term, we will be linking our history learning (WW2) to our digital learning in order to create an interactive website about World War 2. Children will carefully consider how they can interact with their target audience thoughtfully and effectively, as well as share their interactive website on the correct platform so it is most accessible for their target audience. Simultaneously considering how to use	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! As an extra activity, find out and explore as much information as you can about WW2

	technology safely, respectfully and responsibly .	
PE 	Gymnastics This half term will see our children thrown head first into the gymnastic arena! Y6 will be focusing on 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. In dance, the children will develop their skills in following sequences and linking moves together with music.	Together, find out about the 3 main gymnastic events, watch gymnast via the internet! You may also decide to join a gymnastic club. Sacred Heart and St Mary's have clubs - On sight!!!!!!
Art	Mixed Media Artist study This half term, we will be focusing on understanding narratives and descriptive language in art, exploring meanings behind paintings, and developing personal interpretations and abstract art pieces based on selected artists. Our lessons will explore creative expression, analysis, and evaluation skills in art.	Watch and enjoy ' Landscape Artist of the Year ' or catch up with, ' Portrait Artist of the Year ' Starting Wednesday 10th January at 8pm on Sky Arts (Freeview Channel 36). You could also visit: The National Gallery- Trafalgar Square!
PSHE (including online safety) 	Study & Organisational Skills Our PAThS programme is designed to facilitate the development of self-control, emotional awareness and interpersonal problem-solving skills. This term we will continue focussing on 'Study and Organisational skills, their relevance and importance in light of the upcoming ' Family Learning ' and ' SATs '. (A must for year 6 & 7 preparation)	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.



Online Safety is being aware of the nature of the possible threats that you could encounter whilst engaging in activity through the Internet.

Online Reputation:

This half term, we will be finding out and explaining the ways in which anyone can develop a positive online reputation. We will find out and understand what an online reputation is, understand that people may conduct online searches to find out information about me, and we will also explore and understand that the information people find about me will allow them to form an opinion of me.

Online safety -

Have a conversation!

Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.

What games do you and your friends like to play online? Can you show me the websites you visit the most? Shall we play your favourite game online together?

Ask them about how they stay safe online.

What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?

Ask them if they know where to go for help.

Where can they go to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use?

Think about how you each use the internet?

-Upcoming class Family Learning events and dates: Wednesday 21st January 2026, Wednesday 28th January 2026.

-All teachers at Sacred Heart R.C Primary School follow the homework policy. In year 6 we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
English: -Reading -Comprehension -Spellings -Grammar	Friday	Friday	Set clear routines for reading time and homework. Read with your child. Listen to them read out loud but also read aloud to your child. The children benefit from hearing texts read with appropriate volume, tone and expression. Practise spellings little and often.
Maths	Friday	Friday	Practise timetables daily. Recite your times tables out loud, backwards, written in order and with multiplication and division facts.

Kind regards,

Miss Smith, Mrs Garaialde
Miss Pat, Miss Lisa.