



Information for parents

“Lent is a time for greater generosity- not just with money, but with love, forgiveness, and mercy.” St. Leo the Great

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back after the half-term break. We hope that you and your family had a restful and enjoyable week.

Spring is on its way! The Spring bulbs are out and thankfully, the days are gradually becoming lighter and warmer.

Now that we have entered into the period of Lent, it is a perfect time for our children not only to reflect upon their personal goals and their attitude to learning, but also the choices that they make with others at home and at school.

We will continue to **guide** our children in their learning and the choices they make, as they grow and develop, via our **Sacred Heart Ethos**, which has been 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** is structured using the **SACRED** acronym:

S: *Service*

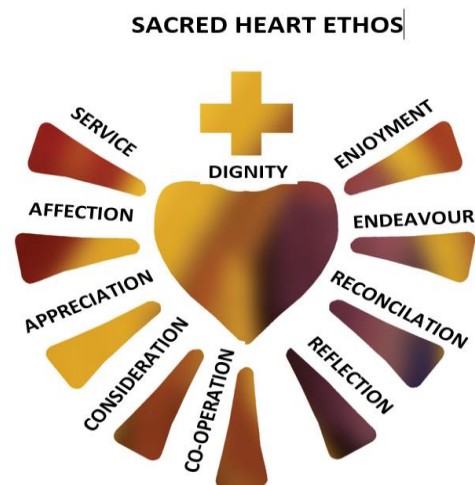
A: *Affection and Appreciation*

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**

*Dear Lord Jesus,
Please help us to be good friends to our family, our neighbours and all who we
meet through our words and actions.
Amen*

-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	This half-term we will be looking at 'The Twits' for our English text. The children will be using the text to write for different purposes and develop their exciting sentences and grammar. Some activities will include, writing character profiles, a warning poster, instructions, a newspaper front page and a missing chapter. This will be substantiated by reading practice groups, guided reading and handwriting practice. In Whole Class Reading sessions, we will be honing in on different skills such as retrieval, inference, sequencing and prediction using the school 'Reading Dogs'.	Ask your child what they think about 'The Twits'? Does it remind them of anything else that they have read? What is their favourite part? Why? Read some other Roald Dahl stories together so that the children can make comparisons. Read every evening at home with your child. Encourage them to show their fluency, prosody and comprehension skills that they have practised in school that week. Encourage your child to practise their spellings each week and to make up and write sentences with these words in them so that they can read and understand them in context.

Maths	We will also cover multiplication and division. Children will begin to identify equal groups through different representations. They will use this to solve repeated addition problems. Children will be introduced to the multiplication symbol for the first time. They will link repeated addition and multiplication together, using stem sentences to support their understanding. Finally, the children will use the 2, 5- and 10-times tables to begin sharing, grouping and dividing odd and even numbers.	Practise multiplying and finding different patterns using equal groups. Do they know what an equal group is? How will this help solve multiplication problems? Encourage your child to use Numbots as much as possible and complete their Maths homework weekly.
RE	This half term, we will continue to explore Thanksgiving. We will explore how and why we give thanks in Holy Communion. To finish, the children will create a recipe to represent what they need to follow Jesus' footsteps. The children will then move on to 'Opportunities' where they will learn about the celebration of Lent. They will learn that each day offers opportunities for 'good' and Lent is the opportunity to turn towards what is good in preparation for Easter. The children will also take part in Ash Wednesday Mass and learn why it is a special time for Christians.	Ask your child 'What happens the day before Ash Wednesday and why?' Have a discussion with your child about the events leading up to Easter and why it is an important celebration in the church. You could choose to give something up to celebrate Lent and talk about it with your child.
PSHE (including online safety)	This half term we will continue to look at different feelings including self-control. We will use pictures and feelings charts to identify times in which we may feel upset or and focus on how to recognise when we are feeling this way.	Talk to your child about times in which they may feel angry or upset. Is this a comfortable or uncomfortable feeling? Do they know what causes them to feel this way? Talk to your child about times you also feel this way as an adult and what you

	As a class, we will explore our '3 steps for calming down' poster and share the story 'Baxter and his Temper' to think about different methods for calming down.	do to feel better. Talk to your child about what makes them calm and practise this at home. Could it be singing a song or reading a book? Remind your child of these methods anytime they are feeling this way at home.
Science	This half term, our Science topic is 'plants'. The children will identify the similarities and differences of seeds and bulbs before planting their own beans. They will develop their understanding of what conditions plants need to grow, alongside developing their scientific skills through experimentation and observing their beans grow!	Can your child identify plants? How do they grow and why are they so important? Try planting some seeds of your own. What about making 'seed bombs' and planting them in public spaces? Observe whether they grow. Why did they grow? Or not? Experiment with growing vegetables from scraps in your home/ windowsill/ garden. What conditions do they need to be successful?
Geography	This half term, the Geography topic is 'What makes our world wonderful'. We will locate the 7 continents and 5 oceans on a world map using an atlas, before creating our own 'globes' with balloons. The children will explore the human and physical features of the continents and identify ways to travel around the world. We will also learn how to identify hot and cold places by referring to atlases, maps and globes. This will help to build the children's geographical skills.	Talk to your child about or look at a world map and where we are located in comparison to other continents. What is similar about the continents? What is different? Why not listen to the continent's song? Quiz your child on the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world; what are their human and physical features?
Computing	In Computing this half term, the children will explore programming. The children will use Chromebooks and the programme Scratch Junior to programme a sprite to move, talk and resize.	Ask your child what they have learnt at school and practise using a computer at home. Scratch Junior is also available as a free app: https://www.scratchjr.org/
PE	Year 2 will be focusing on developing their ball skills through football for Spring 2.	Practice throwing and catching in the park.

	Learning to dribble, pass and shoot the ball through a target, as well as increasing their fitness levels through various challenges. They will also continue to develop their balance, coordination and match-play skills using a variety of invasion games.	
Music	This half term we will be continuing to learn to play the recorder: adding new notes C, D and E, and learning to read musical notes. We will also learn more about the music of Bach, Mozart and Beethoven.	
D.T	In DT we will be exploring Mechanisms as the children design, create and evaluate their own Fairground Wheel. First, they will explore wheel mechanisms and design a Ferris wheel, describing how axles help wheels to move on a vehicle. Then, they will select appropriate materials based on their properties, communicate their ideas to others and plan their build. They will build and test a moving wheel, testing and adapting it to make it rotate. Finally, the children will make and evaluate a structure with a rotating wheel.	Hunt for toys with wheels in your home. Ask your child- how does it move? What do you notice? Why is it made from that material?

-Upcoming class assemblies and/or Family Learning events and dates:

-Class trips or visits this half term:

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

In year * we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Spellings	Friday	Friday	Practise each spelling every evening and ask them to use it in a sentence orally. Spellings tested on Friday.
Maths	Friday	Friday	Please encourage your child to do the Maths fluency sheets as independently as possible.

			Your child should use 'Numbots' for 30 minutes per week, as set by the class teachers (log in details can be found in your child's reading record).
English	Friday	Friday	Please encourage your child to complete the reading task as independently as possible- if it is a little tricky encourage your child to use their phonics to sound out unfamiliar words and to underline or highlight what is important.
Reading	Your child will need to have their reading book and reading record book in school every day. Please check your child's reading record book for changing day. Please sign to say you have read with your child and questioned them about what is happening in the text.		

PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have specialist teachers and coaches. Please send your child in wearing his or her PE kit on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please remember that the school rule is that if your child is unable to participate in PE owing to sickness, then they are not well enough to come to school.

PE days for Year 2 are Tuesday and Thursday .

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on a Monday and Wednesday night

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Kind regards,
Mrs Cook
Miss Creasey
Miss Chloe