



Information for parents

“Remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, look forward to the future with confidence.”
Pope Saint John Paul II

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to school after the half term break. We do hope families are feeling rested and refreshed and **enthusiastic** about the busy half term ahead, which is already packed full of events, including Parent/Teacher Consultations, Remembrance Day services, Year 6 School Journey to Sayers Croft, class assemblies, sporting events and much more. Then of course, over the holy period of December, we will begin Advent preparations in the lead up to Christmas.

And on that note, as the season of Advent approaches, please encourage your children to reflect on the message from Sunday 9th November's Gospel, taken from John 2: 13-22, which emphasises that **enthusiasm** is one of life's most important ingredients. As it states in **The Wednesday Word**:

“The word ‘enthusiasm’ comes from the Greek word ‘entheos’ which means ‘God-filled’. Life really is joyful when we are enthusiastic about the right things. In this Sunday's Gospel, we read how the people had actually lost sight of God by getting caught up in their buying and selling. Jesus' enthusiastic action was a protest that things had gone seriously wrong with how they were relating to God; something needed to change. Right here-right now-we can begin or renew our relationship with God and be filled with fresh enthusiasm for life...

Enthusiasm is an attractive quality. As we become more aware of God's presence in our daily lives, we become happier and more filled with energy and enthusiasm. God wants us to pray: to ask him to fill us with enthusiasm for the right, good and lasting things in life.”

*Dear Lord Jesus,
Please fill us with enthusiasm to love you, to serve you, and to help others to know you too.
Amen*

Our children are supported in their spiritual, educational and emotional growth by our **Sacred Heart Ethos**, which has been drawn from our Federation Mission Statement (**The Parable of the Mustard Seed, Matthew 13:31**), Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching (CST) principles.

Our **Sacred Heart Ethos** has been 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*

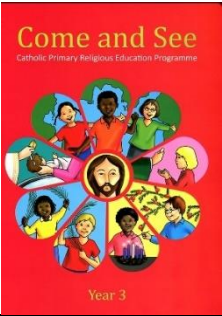
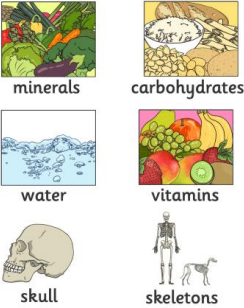


Our ethos also strongly links with the **8 learning behaviours** we focus on in school (and encourage at home), which are:

- *Being curious*
- *Having a go (perseverance)*
- *Co-operating*
- *Enjoying learning*
- *Improving*
- *Using your imagination*
- *Concentrating*
- *Not giving up (resilience)*

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 term we will looking at 'Why do volcanoes erupt?' and will be writing explanation texts to show our findings. Whilst learning how to write an explanation text, we will be thinking about the different features of an explanation text including fronted time adverbials, causal conjunctions and contractions such as 'don't', 'couldn't'. We will then be moving onto writing our own diary entries based on the book <i>Charlotte's Web</i>, thinking about the shift in emotions Wilbur goes through. For reading, we will be using guided comprehension lessons to dive into different types of texts. We will be looking at chapters from books, poems, non-fiction texts and lyrics of songs, and picking them apart using the VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explaining, Retrieval,	Expand vocabulary such as adjectives and command sentences using exclamation marks. Research about different volcanoes and think about how to use cause and effect conjunctions (as a result of, consequently, this leads to). Ask children if they can recount a chapter using time adverbs such as 'next', 'after that' and using past tense accurately.

	Sequence, Summarising) reading domains. Pupils will be encouraged to gain a better understanding of vocabulary used and consider how they can improve their answers to comprehension questions. We will also be developing pupils' reading fluency and expression when reading aloud, across all areas of the curriculum.	
Maths 	We will be continuing with addition and subtraction, continuing to look at numbers to 1,000. The children will be using the number facts they know to access the larger numbers to add and subtract two-digit numbers. We will be learning how to bridge through 10 and 100. We will also be using inverse operations to check through our work. We will use a variety of visuals to support our work in this area, including part-part-whole, bar models and the number line.	Use maths in practical settings where possible. Practise timetables on daily basis (2, 5, 10, 4, 3 and 8s). Make sure that your child accesses Mathletics, TTRS and Numbots.
RE 	Our main topic this term will be Visitors. We will be looking at how to welcome others, before preparing ourselves for Christmas and welcoming the Lord. We also will be focusing and exploring the religion of Judaism.	Visitors: Children could discuss their family's way to prepare for Jesus's arrival.
Science 	This half term we will be learning about Animals Including Humans. We will look at how to maintain a healthy diet and why it is important to get the right nutrients. We will then also look at human skeletons and how they function, including learning the common and scientific names for bones and how muscles and joints work. We will also be studying Marie Curie and discovering the contributions she made to the use of x-rays.	Discuss which food groups are healthy with your child and which need to be moderated on a daily basis using the food eaten at home.
RSE/PSHE (including online safety)	This half term, Year 3 will be following the ten:ten programme to explore how we are all 'Created and Loved by God'. Through our lessons, we will be exploring the Gospel story of Jairus' daughter in various creative and reflective ways. Through this story and discussion, the children will learn that they are designed for a purpose and how they should live in light of this. Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, the children will learn to celebrate their similarities and	Talk to your child about their personal image of themselves, what do they feel are their strengths and weaknesses? How do they view and value themselves day to day? How do they think others view and value them? Use positive praise and compliments to promote a positive view of themselves and

	differences, and to appreciate and look after their bodies as gifts from God. All children will learn the importance of valuing themselves in all of their personal relationships.	help them to recognise their own personal strengths.
Geography 	This term our topic is Extreme Earth. We will be exploring all things extreme about our planet. Different natural disasters and extreme climates will be a focus, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis. Alongside this we will be learning the necessary procedures undertaken to stay safe in areas that are affected by these. We will also investigate the Earth's core and its' structural make up.	Keep an eye on current events in the news relating to natural disasters or extreme weather. Or find and read old newspaper articles or watch old news reporting videos. Students to research and explore all things extreme. Use the internet or go to the library and borrow books on natural disasters, weather, climate, and layers of the earth.
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.	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.
Computing 	This half term we will be looking at digital literacy by creating a mind map presentation around the topic of Extreme Earth. We will be looking at how to plan our work and then how to convert this into an end product.	Discuss e-safety with your child. E.g. never tell anyone your name and address online. Download and explore some of the following apps with your child: Scratch Junior, Daisy the Dinosaur, Hopscotch, Kodable as well as i-Motion, Morpho, Puppet Pals, Explain Everything and Book Creator.
DT 	For DT this term we will be looking at Cooking and Nutrition: Eating seasonally. We will be finding out how fruits and vegetables grow in different countries based on their climates, including or UK seasonal fruits and veg. After learning about where our food comes from we will be looking at how eating seasonally positively affects the environment. With this knowledge we will then be designing and creating our own food using seasonal ingredients.	Talk to your children about how to have a balanced and healthy diet, and how different foods are in season at different times of the year. Take them to a local supermarket or shop to let them explore the different seasonal foods and find out which countries different foods are from.

Where possible we like to take the children out of school, or invite visitors in to speak to the children to enrich their learning. This half term we are visiting **The Natural History Museum on Thursday 20th November 2025** (please see separate letter from your class teacher for details).

All teachers at Sacred Heart School follow the homework policy.

In Year 3 we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
English	Thursday	Tuesday	Bitesize is a suggested website to use to familiarise yourself/your child with grammar and vocabulary for Year 3.
Maths	Thursday	Tuesday	Sit down with your child and support them as they complete their homework to consolidate learning. Allow your child to use TT Rockstars. Help your child practise their times tables.
Spellings	Thursday	Tuesday	Read, write, and check at home. Allow your child to use Spelling Shed.
Science	Thursday 23rd October	Before Tuesday 16th December	Pick one project from the homework grids.
Geography	Thursday 23rd October	Before Tuesday 16th December	Pick one project from the homework grids.
Reading	Once children have finished reading their book, they will have the opportunity to change it in school. All children who have exited the Little Wandle programme will need to complete AR Quizzes on their chosen books (where available). All children who have exited the Little Wandle programme should complete at least 1 quiz a week on either their chosen school book or a book from home.		Please bring in reading books to school every day. Listen to your child reading for a minimum of 20 minutes daily and support them with asking questions about what they are reading. Allow time at home for your child to hear you read a story to them.

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 Monday, and leave it at school until Friday. 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 3 are Monday and Tuesday.

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on a Sunday and Monday evening.

Kind regards,
Miss MacKay
Miss Lopez
Ms Lorraine