



Term: Spring 1 2026

Year group: Year 3

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

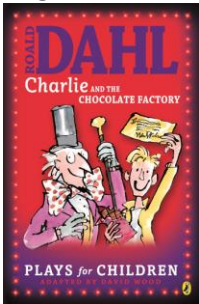
R: Reconciliation

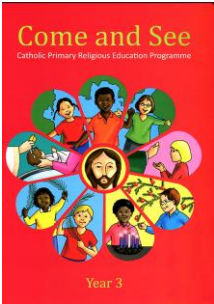
E: Endeavour and Enjoyment

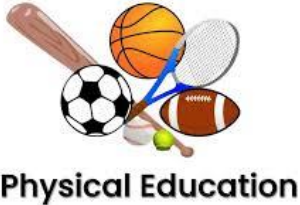
D: Dignity

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)

-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 be reading 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Ronald Dahl. We will be writing a persuasive text about one of the characters and what our opinions are on their behaviour. We will then move on to write a newspaper report about when the golden tickets are announced. 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, 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.	Discuss the book and the events that happen in the text. Ask the children what their opinions are on these events and if they could persuade the characters to change their behaviour.
Maths	This term we will be continuing our work on how to represent 3 digit numbers and counting	Use maths in practical settings where possible. Practise timetables on daily basis (2, 5, 10, 4, 3

	forwards and backwards within 3 digit numbers. We will then move onto 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.	and 8s). Make sure that your child accesses TTRS and Numbots.
RE 	Our main topic this half-term will be Journeys- the journey through the liturgical year. We will be looking at how and why we split our year up and the feast days and special celebrations that take place throughout. Just before half-term we will move on to Listening and Sharing- both with each other and with God.	Look at the New Year newspapers at the significant events of the past year. Using pictures and text make a glossy magazine page of the Church family's celebrations of the previous year. Talk about the Eucharist and the importance of it.
Science 	This term is all about Plants. We will be learning about the parts of a plant and their functions, and conducting experiments which show the life cycle of a plant, how water is transported and the important function of leaves.	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's focus is of 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 time in their local area.	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 building are different? Explore the local library or online 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	Discuss digital devices with your child and how

	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.	we use them to connect.
PE 	This term we 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.	To help your children at home, you can continue to practice the skills needed for passing, dribbling and shooting or following sequences and linking moves together.
Music 	This half term we will be starting to learn the violin – playing open strings in rhythms, using the bow, starting to use our fingers to play notes from the scale of D major, and reading notes across the D scale including crotchets, quavers and minims	Encourage your child to listen to music at home to see if they can pick out any violins being used.
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.

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

3M Class assembly: Wednesday 14th Jan, 9:15am

-Class trips or visits this half term:

-All teachers at Sacred Heart R.C Primary 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.
Spelling	Thursday	Tuesday	
Science			Pick one project from the homework grids.
Geography			Complete the map.
Reading			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.
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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 Monday, and leave it at school until Friday. Any absences from PE need to be explained in a letter.

PE days for Year 3 are *Mondays and Tuesdays*.

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

Kind regards,

Miss MacKay, Mrs Lopes, Miss Lorraine