



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*

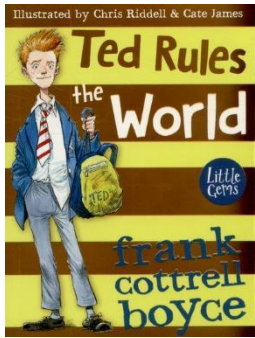
D: *Dignity*



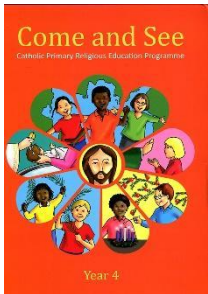
Our ethos also strongly links with the **8 learning behaviours** we focus on in school (and encourage at home), which are:

- *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 half term we are going to be looking at missing chapters and discursive writing. The children will be basing our writing on a Frank Cottrell-Boyce book: Ted Rules the World. The children will be writing a missing chapter following the story sequence of Ted Rules the World. Then, the children will be writing a discursive piece on what they	Help your children to take the AR quiz on the books that they have read. Encourage children to write for pleasure at home and continue to practise reading through their own working and editing/improving as well as checking spellings.

	would do if they ruled the world. In our Guided Comprehension lessons, we will continue to develop 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 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.	
Maths	This term we will continue building strong knowledge of place value of numbers to 10,000. We will then move onto perimeter where we will be identifying the perimeter of various shapes and exploring why we may need to know the perimeter of a shape. Children will reason (hypothesise, prove, question) about the relationship between numbers and their component parts (digits) through practical representing, counting, comparing and ordering. Pupils will apply their understanding of place value in a number of	As part of national statutory assessments, Y4 students in England will be required to administer an online multiplication tables check, also known as MTC. The national curriculum specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12×12 by the end of year 4. The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided. In order for your child to progress in maths this year, they must practise their tables and division facts frequently at home and/or on TTRS, Times Tables Rock Stars.

	different, real-life contexts, such as money and measures. The children will understand the symbols related to Roman numerals and compare them to our numeric system. Children will be able to see and explain how place value supports their mental calculations; and they will have varied practice to develop fluency and problem-solving skills.	
RE 	Our RE topic this half term will be focusing on the period of Advent. We will be looking at what it means to be called to God's family and the meaning and preparation behind the season of Advent.	Encourage your child to read the Bible. Bible stories can be a great way for teaching children. They have real meaning for anyone who wants to understand God and how he wants us to behave. Discuss the 7 Sacraments! What are they? What is their significance in our lives? Encourage your child to think of people in need and be thankful for all the wonderful things that happen to us!
Science 	Living things and their habitats In Science this term, we will be continuing to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. We will also explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment, as well as recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.	Visit the Science Museum where interactive resources will make the learning of this fascinating topic a real treat! Discuss your child's science learning. Try out some classifying experiments at home, a truly fun way to learn about living things and their environments. Check out BBC Bitesize to extend your child's learning even further
PSHE (including online safety)	This term we will follow the Ten:Ten	Encourage your child to discuss what they have learnt at school and see if there is anything they



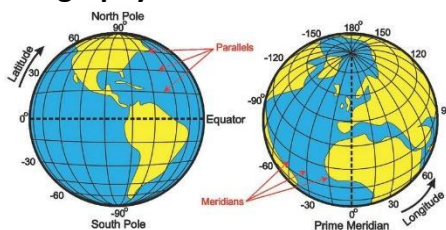
plus scheme of learning.
The scheme helps to embed Catholic values and supports children with understanding their religion and living in the wider world.

As part of this we will be focussing on:
following the rules, decision making, being active, giving to others, being connected; All this will link with our SH learning behaviours.

We will also be covering Online Safety and the different ways children and adults alike can remain safe on the internet, discussing how somebody's online identity can be different to their offline identity, explaining that others online can pretend to be someone else, including friends, and why they might do this.

have learnt at school that you can help them to develop in their home life too.

Geography

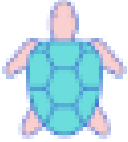


The topic for Geography for this half term will be exploring the question 'Where in the world are we?' We will be studying: longitude and latitude, hemispheres, Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn as well as times zones in various different countries and why there are different time zones around the world. We will be discussing the location of the equator and the different climates in different parts of the world and

Familiarise yourself with Google earth/Atlas and begin understand location of countries in proximity to others. To further support your children in their learning you can encourage investigative questions such as "what time zone is X in?", "What other countries share the time zone with X", "How can location influence a culture?", "What are the countries natural resources?"

It is also important for children to be aware of local geography. Understanding the location of home/school and which direction a location in London is.

Sacred Heart (year 4) – Hyde park is North, East as I look out from the classroom. I would need to keep the bearing of North, East to reach Hyde park from school.

	why some climates are different to others.	Check out BBC Bitesize for video clips and games linked to our topic of 'where in the world are we?'. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvsfr821
Computing 	This half term in computing, we will be using Turtle Academy for our coding module. The children will be learning to write and programme basic code, predicting the outcome of their coding then testing it.	Computing capability is an essential skill for life and enables learners to participate more readily in a rapidly changing world. Using the internet, for example, gives them instant access to ideas and experiences from a wide range of people, communities and cultures. <u>Please ensure you continuously discuss with your child the importance of E-safety (how to stay safe on electronic devices with internet access).</u> Find out what your child hopes to achieve through using ICT. For them to benefit fully it is important to maintain a specific learning focus when using the internet. Help your child to decide what is appropriate for them and to work out what information is unreliable
Design and Technology 	This term in DT we will be designing and then creating a pavilion. We will be working on team work and collaboration skills as well as: - designing a pavilion that is strong, stable and aesthetically pleasing; - selecting appropriate materials and construction techniques to create a stable, free-standing frame structure; - selecting appropriate materials and techniques to add cladding to a pavilion	Encourage creativity through junk modelling and general craft and design using everyday objects. Use Pinterest as a great source of ideas.
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,	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 If possible, sign up to after school clubs and sports clubs outside of the school curriculum

	attacking and defending skills.	where possible. Alternatively, practise the many sports available with them, if and whenever possible.
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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 Burntwood School to prepare for our Winter Sounds Concert at Fairfield Halls.

All teachers at Sacred Heart School follow the homework policy.

In Year 4 we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
English (May be cross –curricular)	Wednesday	Monday	Your child may need extra time and/or take longer to finish tasks, so encourage them to do their homework in small chunks over the course of the week rather than all in one night. Help your child to organise the things they need for their homework. Develop a good routine of when homework is done. Give your child a break after school to relax before starting. Try to provide a quiet place and time for homework.
Reading Please bring reading books to school every day.	Please read for 15 minutes a day.	Please read for 15 minutes a day.	Encourage your child to read a variety of things, e.g. books, comics, newspapers, signs. If your child is interested in a particular book, but is unable to read it, please read it to or with them. It would also benefit your child to listen to audio books or e-Books. Your child will need to have their reading book and reading record in school every day. Listen to your child read with expression and talk about the books they read to support their comprehension. Please sign your child's reading record to say that you have listened to them read. Reading records will be checked every Monday – 4P Thursday 4O
Maths (Includes daily practise of times tables in preparation for the weekly tests.)	Wednesday	Monday	Practise multiplication and division facts. Y4 children are expected to know timetables to 12 by heart. REVISE, REVISE, REVISE There are many interactive number games and websites your child could access. Please remember to use Times table Rock Stars for 7 minutes 3 times a week.

Weekly spelling tests and times table tests.	Wednesday	Monday/Friday	Spelling tests will take place on a Monday. Times tables tests will be conducted on a Friday. Please ensure that your child practises their spellings and times tables every day.
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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. 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 4 is a Monday

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

Kind regards,
Mrs Parker, Miss Oladapo, Miss Debbie, Miss Taylor and Mr Martin