

Information for parents/carers-please keep safe for future reference.



Term: Spring 2 2019/20
Year group: 2

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to St Mary's RC Primary School, Battersea. We hope that you and your family had a lovely half-term break.

Spring is on its way! The mornings are getting lighter and the staff are refreshed and invigorated, after another excellent training day with fellow Wandsworth Catholic primary schools, at Sacred Heart Primary School in Roehampton. The morning focused on curriculum development led by outside speakers with expertise in RE (linked to art and the God Who Speaks), Science, History and Geography. In the afternoon, teachers met in their different subjects to share good practice and to consider next steps as a Catholic cluster in regards to teaching and learning and curriculum development. We all then met for a closing liturgy with Deacon Michael. So all in all, a lovely and inspirational start to the half term.

During this period of Lent, it is a perfect time for the children to reflect upon their personal goals, attitude to learning and the choices that they make both in class and in the playground, and in their relationships with others. As it mentions in the most recent Wednesday Word,

'Lent is a time for us to make an extra effort to listen carefully to God's word, to try and make a change for the better by turning away from things which are wrong for ourselves or others.'

So that your child/children have a smooth transition back to school this half term, please continue to develop positive learning behaviours at home by encouraging your child to:

- Show **curiosity** and **creativity** by discussing their homework with you, asking questions related to their learning and suggesting ideas.
- Demonstrate **concentration** by finding a quiet area in which to study and organising what they need to complete their homework
- Show **effort, improvement, perseverance** and **resilience** by completing homework tasks fully, to a good standard of presentation and to the best of their ability
- Demonstrate **teamwork** by speaking to their class (or set teacher) before the due date if they need assistance or clarification, and ensuring that they hand homework in on time, so that the class can work together when revising learning and addressing misconceptions.

PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies)

We continue to celebrate the positive attributes of every child this year through awarding 'Pupil of the Day', which is part of PATHS, our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) programme. This award is given out at random on a daily basis to our pupils. We hope you continue to enjoy hearing the compliments your child receives!

Please see <http://www.pathseducation.co.uk/> for more details.

-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 looking at the following: -Setting descriptions -Character descriptions -Alternative endings -Missing chapters	Continue to practice reading and spelling the year 1 and year 2 common exception words, this could be done whilst practising cursive handwriting to ensure your child has legible work. Looking at a range of text through the use of library will help expose your child to the range of interesting vocabulary they can use in their writing to improve their extended pieces of writing.
Maths	-Multiplication and division -Statistics -Geometry -Fractions -Length and Height Over the term the children will develop their understanding of <u>multiplication</u> and <u>division</u> which will support them with calculations and word problems of the 4 operations. Children will	Use the information about the weekly maths in their homework to support further learning. Be sure to log onto Mathletics and TT Rockstars to further the arithmetic skills. Real life problem questions to use: -Can you share these carrots into equal groups? -Look out the window, how many of each colour car do you see? Create a pictogram? -Can you find a 3D shape around the house? -If I share this pizza between everyone in the house what fraction will you get? -Who is tallest out of you and I?
RE	The children will be developing their understanding of Lent and Easter. We will use this term to discuss opportunities of giving.	At home discuss how your child can give around this time of the year. For example giving 110% effort in their work.
Science	-Living things and their habitats We will be looking at <u>food chains</u> and investigating micro-habitats. -Health and Growth We will be looking at how <u>humans</u> and <u>animals grow</u> and <u>change</u> overtime.	Discuss animals and their habitats at home. Visit the Natural History Museum or Science Museum (it's free!)
Topic	This term we will be thinking about the definition of Citizenship and linking it to Lent.	At home have discussions about how your child can make a difference and give to others.
Computing	Children will further develop their coding skills developing on from skills learnt last year. Using the Scratch programme children will gain an understanding of algorithms.	At home spend time discussing that coding comes in a range of ways. Link it to their understanding of instructions and play games online that allow them to further explore algorithms.
PE	This term we will be focusing on Basketball and Gymnastics. Children will be learning how to control & move with the ball correctly & safely. Children will be learning how to balance as well as, creating sequences to music as part of a group.	Please encourage children to do some sort of physical activity every day after School. Changing their direction or movement whilst running or walking will help them to develop crucial skills in PE.
Music	Year 2 pupils will continue developing their understanding of pitch this half-term by listening to and imitating sounds heard in pieces of music.	At home continue listening to a range of music. Ask children to use movement to reflect the length and pitch of sounds in the piece. Try and create your own beat, maybe even add lyrics to it.
PATHS	In class we will be discussing surprised, expected, lonely, shy, making friends as well as, practicing more problem solving techniques.	At home you could spend 5 minutes a day listening to calming music. Encourage your child to be still, reflect and relax whilst discussing emotions.

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 Battersea Library on [Monday 2nd March 2020](#)

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Spellings	Thursday	Tuesday	Children will have a set of 10 – 15 spellings to learn over the week. Make sure your child is practising every day and that they are practising the words spelt correctly. Encourage your child to use words in sentences orally to ensure they understand the meaning of the words. Allow your children the chance to log onto Spelling Shed.
Maths			Reading questions and ensuring that they understand the questions. Ask your child to explain how they got the answer. Allow your children the chance to log onto Mathletics and TT Rockstars.
English			Discuss with your child what they are going to write, reminding them to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sound it out - Use capital letters - Use full stops - Use finger spaces Form letters correctly
Reading	Every day – Children are expected to bring in their reading books with the diary every day and will be changed at least once a week providing it has been recorded and signed to acknowledge that they have read.		Read with them, correcting any mistakes and asking questions that support their comprehension of the book. Children are expected to read at least 5 times a week . They are not expected to finish one book a day, and should be reading at least 10 to 15 minutes each time.

Each class will perform two class assemblies this year. Our year 2 assemblies are on:

[28th May 2020](#)

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 [Monday and Wednesday](#).

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on these days.

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child's class teacher at any time should you wish to discuss progress, attainment or welfare or if you have any questions or worries. We all want happy children who are ready to learn and happy families ready to support good learning!

Kind regards,

Ms Brown

Ms Galvis