

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



Term: Spring 2 2019/20
Year group:3

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	<p>We will start the half-term by looking at the Yoruba creation myth. After that, children will have an opportunity to write their own modern day myths.</p> <p>Then, we will be looking at classic and narrative poems. We will look at patterns of language and engage with the poet's use of imaginative language. We will prepare a poem to perform to an audience.</p>	<p>Enjoy reading a variety myths, legends, fables and traditional tales with your child.</p> <p>Help your child to read, enjoy and then choose a poem and to learn it to perform to an audience.</p> <p>PLEASE READ TO YOUR CHILD AT HOME.</p>
Maths	<p>We will start off the half-term by looking at length and perimeter, and the different units of measure for length (mm, cm, and m). We will then move into adding and subtracting with lengths and looking at giving converting into the same units.</p> <p>We will then be studying different types of graph, including Bar Charts and Pictograms.</p> <p>Towards the end of the half term, we will begin our unit on Fractions.</p>	<p>Continue to practise the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables and division at home, as children should be confident in these by the end of Year 3.</p> <p>Access Mathletics with your child and discuss the questions together.</p> <p>Survey friends and family and create a Bar Chart with the collected data. Give your child opportunities to handle money. Allow them to pay for things in a shop with money. Ask them to work out how much the shopping is in total and extend them by asking them to work out the change they would receive.</p>
RE	<p>Our first topic is Eucharist: Listening and sharing.</p> <p>Our second theme will be Lent/Easter – Giving All.</p>	<p>Discuss the meaning of Eucharist and talk about Holy Communion and how to prepare for it. Talk about 'Little Acts of Kindness' which children can do at home.</p>
Science	<p>In our topic of Light children will learn to identify light sources, observe shadows and their properties and investigate reflective surfaces. They will also discuss the potential dangers of the sun and explore the various ways we can protect our eyes from it.</p>	<p>Talk about the sources of light, sun glasses and UV factors. Also discuss shadows when going for a walk. Have a debate about whether the moon is a light source or not.</p>
Geography	<p>We will be learning about Europe and the different countries it is made up of. We will also look at the differences and similarities between the countries in Europe.</p> <p>To link with our English topic, we will look at Greece, its culture and some of its history.</p>	<p>Use books and the Internet to create a poster about a country in Europe to present to the class.</p> <p>Look at Europe on a map and locate different countries.</p>
Computing	<p>We will be looking at creating fact files about a myth, using the Explore app. This will be concluded by a group presentation.</p>	<p>Allow your child access to Mathletics, Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rock Star weekly. Research a European country and create an Encyclopaedia entry for that country.</p> <p>Discover facts about how we see light.</p>
PE	<p>This half-term Y3 will be doing activities based around athletics and gymnastics.</p>	<p>Remind your children of the safety rules we have for P.E.</p>
Music	<p>This half-term Y3 will be learning about the different orchestral instruments in Music.</p>	<p>Encourage your children to listen to a variety of different music and focus on how the instruments are different.</p>
PATHS	<p>Children will be exploring using their control to help them calm down and overcome obstacles in a calm and secure way.</p>	<p>Discuss with your child the different emotions they experience and encourage them to identify them. Emphasise that all emotions are ok to feel, but not all behaviours in response to those emotions are acceptable.</p>

Italian (KS2 only)	We will be continuing with the Italian for numbers to 20, school equipment, colours, instructions in class (write, draw, listen, colour), birthdays (days of the week and months of the year).	Encourage your child to practise the Italian words and songs they have learnt A useful resource you to use at home is the free website: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/languagesonline/italian/italian.htm
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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 the Science Museum-details to follow.

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Spellings	Thursday	Monday	Read, write, check at home.
Maths			Encourage practising number facts, times tables and mental arithmetic. Encourage your child to use Mathletics if possible.
English			Go through the reading comprehension text with your child, explaining unfamiliar words. Bitesize is a suggested website to use to familiarise yourself/your child with grammar and vocabulary for Year3.
Reading	Daily		Listen to your child reading for a minimum of 20 minutes daily and support them in answering 3 questions about what they have read in their Reading Record. There are a choice of questions stuck to the front of their reading record, they must answer 3 every week.

Each class will perform two class assemblies this year. Our remaining Year3 assembly is on:

[Thursday 2nd April 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 3 are Monday and Tuesday.

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,

Miss Lapavitsas

Miss Stott