

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



Term: Spring 2 2019/20
Year group: 6

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>In English, we will be continuing to prepare for SATs by working on our grammar, punctuation and spellings throughout this half term.</p> <p>This term we will be reading different fantasy stories. We will be exploring fantasies through the use of drama and role play. Further to this, the children will be using the stories to develop their own quest story. They will continue to improve their editing skills in order to uplift their writing. We will also explore mystery and horror genres through reading extracts from Great Expectations and The Door in the Wall.</p>	<p>Please continue to support your child when they complete their weekly GPS homework in the workbook provided. Thank you for your hard work at home so far. Encourage your children to read different genres of text to inspire them in their writing. Please make sure you are listening to your child read at home and correcting mistakes and asking questions about their book.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths we will continue to consolidate previous work from the beginning of Year 6. We will also be doing weekly arithmetic and reasoning practise to practice exam technique and allow the children to build on their strengths and target their weaknesses in a SATs environment. We will also be focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fractions, decimals and percentages - Shape, angles and lines - Finding missing angles and using knowledge of polygons to solve written angle problems (Mathletics: Properties of Shapes and Angles) · Formulae - Finding missing values and solving word problems that use algebraic formulae (Mathletics: Patterns and Algebra) · Written Methods. Invaluable skill for all of maths and SATs. Children must have a strong grip of all operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) if they are to get a good score in the summer’s tests. We will be working on perfecting our skills and ironing out any misconceptions (Mathletics: Add and Subtract, Multiply and Divide Written/Mental) 	<p>Please continue to support your child when they complete their weekly Mathletics and written homework. Thank you for your hard work at home so far.</p> <p>Children have at least one copy of an arithmetic paper at home. Using this paper, children should practise questions by simply changing digits. They should be answering arithmetic questions with speed as well as accuracy.</p> <p>E.g.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25.34 × 10 =</p> <p>Change it to: 25.34 x1000 = 65.34 x 10 = 25.34 ÷ 10 =</p>
RE	<p>In RE we will explore the Eucharist. The Eucharist challenges and enables the Christian family to live and grow in communion every day. The Eucharist helps us to find unity in our communities as Christians and we will discuss how the Eucharist can help us to find this unity. We will learn about and share in the importance of important worship such as The Communion Rite and the Our Father.</p>	<p>Taking your children to church as often as possible and allowing them to witness different masses would give them some context to discuss Eucharist. Outside of church, the children could try and get involved in some community activities – a youth group or team, perhaps.</p>
Computing	<p>As we prepare for Easter, we will be recreating the Easter story through animations and movies. Children will be working in groups to recreate different parts of the story and will be brought together to make one long non-stop film.</p>	<p>Encourage your children to explore movie making apps at home e.g. making animations on Gacha. Discuss your ‘top tips’ with your child when using search engines. Which one do you use and why? How do you know whether a link is safe to click on or not?</p>
PE	<p>This term children will develop and explore the fundamentals of movement into space and how to achieve this by, evading, dodging, weaving, tricking and Side stepping on and off the ball. They will also continue to explore and develop the fundamentals of the game with ball control, striking, dribbling. Evasive or “keep ball” games with problem solving will be introduced. Games will be layered up with challenges and constraints for the children to problem solve in an inclusive, fun environment. This can be achieved with the C.A.R.D.S acronym promoting the following: Creativity, Awareness, Resilience, Decision Making and Self-Organisation./54</p>	<p>Please encourage children to do some sort of physical activity every day after school. Also encourage to improve on hand-eye coordination, such as a game of catch. This will help improve on anything we are learning in PE.</p>

PATHS	This term in Paths Year 6 will be focusing on increasing their understanding of respect and how one's behaviour affects others. Further to this, they will learn steps to improve skills for social problem solving which involves thinking about the problem rationally, identifying it and setting goals and solutions. These are all important skills which will support them for their fresh start in secondary school.	Encourage your child to see social problems from other perspectives. Can they think of a sensible, responsible way of sorting out a problem?
Italian (KS2 only)	Children this term will be studying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How to tell the time ● How to describe different everyday home and school routines. ● Their favourite school subjects. ● How to justify these likes and dislikes with opinions. ● Italian culture: food, special celebrations and famous landmarks of Italy. 	Get your child to teach you some of these phrases at home.

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Spellings	Friday	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.
Maths (Mathletics – every day)			Reading questions and ensuring that they understand the questions. Ask your child to explain how they got the answer.
English			Support your child in the different aspects of English homework. - comprehension - grammar, punctuation and spelling tasks - writing
Handwriting			Make sure child practises forming letters correctly. Encourage your child to use joined up writing.
Reading			Every day – Children are expected to bring in their reading books with the diary every day and should be recorded and signed to acknowledge that they have read.

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 6 are every Thursday.
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 Liu
Mr Shoubber and Mrs Knight
Mrs Payne