



Term: Autumn 1 2021
Year Group: Nursery

Information For Parents

“Loving God, we ask you to wrap our school family in a cloak of love and protection as our schools reopen this year. Bless our School Family, our Staff and Governors as they continue their good work that they have already begun to ensure a welcoming and safe environment for all. Bless our parents as they again entrust their children, confident we can all work together to help them become the very best they can. Above all, God of Love, we ask you to extend your hand of blessing on our pupils as they joyfully reunite with their friends and all in the School Community. May they continue to progress in their studies and always know they are safe, secure and protected in your loving embrace.

We know much will seem very different again this year, but, Gracious God, we are confident that through the intercession of our own Saints, Saint John Bosco, Our Mother Mary, St Joseph and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, your love and care for each of us will never change. May we show the same love and care for one another in all we do and say this year.

Amen”

(Final Blessing from Federation Prayer Moment, Staff Inset Day, September 1st, 2021)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We extend a huge welcome to all parents new and old as we begin the 2021/2022 academic year at St Mary’s R.C. Primary School. We hope that you managed to have a relaxing summer, spending time with friends and family.

As we commence the new academic year, we are reminded of our Federation’s Mission Statement, which is based on the parable of **‘The Mustard Seed and Yeast’ (Matthew 13.31)**

"A man took a grain of mustard seed, and sowed it in his field. Indeed, the seed is smaller than all seeds but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches."

At the heart of this parable is the notion of 'growth', that wonderful things can come from the smallest or humblest of beginnings and that each and every one of our children have God given talents that require nurturing and celebrating. In turn, these gifts from God can inspire and motivate others to succeed and to reach their full potential.

Please support your child in their educational, emotional and spiritual growth by developing a 'Growth Mindset'. The **8 learning behaviours** we focus on at school are:

- *Being curious (curiosity)**
- *Having a go (perseverance)**
- *Co-operating**
- *Enjoying learning**
- *Improving**
- *Using your imagination (creativity)**
- *Concentrating *Not giving up (resilience)**

We very much look forward to an enjoyable and rewarding year ahead at St Mary's, Battersea, working closely together with our wider school community, our parish and our partner school, Sacred Heart.



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
Literacy	<p>This term we will be reading a range of stories that celebrate the family. Children will have the opportunity to draw their families and talk about their families to their friends. The children will have the opportunity to roleplay using puppets.</p> <p>Some of the books we will be reading are: We're Going on a Bear Hunt, The Blue Balloon and So Much.</p>	<p>You can help your child by asking them to tell you about the stories they have heard at Nursery.</p> <p>You can point out their name and logos such as Cbeebies, Tesco!</p>
Maths	<p>We will be singing counting number songs and rhymes. Children will be recognising and matching numbers to quantity. We will practise counting using a range of objects.</p> <p>Children will be watching the 'Numberblocks' series, learning about the numbers 1 - 5 and finding out all about them. The episodes will be linked with activities in the classroom, allowing the children to explore a range of mathematical concepts.</p>	<p>You can help your child by counting objects at home, counting steps.</p> <p>You can use size words, see who is the tallest in the family.</p>
RE	<p>This term we will be learning each other's names and the names of people in our school who help to look after us. We will be learning about God and how he knows each one of us by name.</p>	<p>You can help your child by talking about celebrations that you do together as a family.</p>

<p>Understanding of the World</p>	<p>We will exploring the topic 'Ourselves' and use a range of material and resources to create and learn about family and the relations with the wider community.</p>	<p>You can encourage your child to talk about their family. Look at pictures of Grandmas, Grandads, aunties and uncles.</p>
<p>Communication and Language</p>	<p>We will be exploring the class topic 'Ourselves' and using a range of materials and resources to talk about our families and all the people who are important to us. We will be looking at our bodies and our faces, describing ourselves and talking about our likes and dislikes. We will be looking at our similarities and differences and we will be asking for family photos to display in the classroom.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to talk about the things that they like and dislike.</p>
<p>PSED</p>	<p>During this first term of Nursery we focus on the children feeling safe and confident so they can explore and play independently. We spend time teaching ground rules and expected behaviours and how we can all be respectful towards each other.</p> <p>We will be learning about our family, children will be building friendships and learning to work as a team. We will be engaging in circle time activities and games. We will also talk about what makes us special.</p>	<p>Ask your child to tell you the names of their friends. What do they like to play together? Can they tell you the rules in Nursery?</p>
<p>Physical Development</p>	<p>This term we will be learning to become more independent and to negotiate space safely. We will have the opportunity to develop their large motor skills. They will have the opportunity to move freely with a range of equipment such as the</p>	<p>Help your child by developing their finger strength, encourage them to peg things and do simple finger movements.</p>

	bunny hoppers, bicycles and hula hoops. We will be developing our fine motor skills, holding pencils, using tweezers and other tools.	
Expressive Art and Design	We will express ourselves by using a range of technology such as computers and toys where children will explore ways to make them work. Children will have the opportunity to express themselves through art, music, dance, dressing up and role play stories. We will explore the environment by looking at natural resources and junk modelling. The children will be playing instruments and learning new songs.	Ask your child to sing you some of the new songs they have been learning.
PATHS	We will be meeting the PATHS characters and introducing ourselves to them. We will be using our feelings chart to check how we feel and name our feelings.	Encourage your child to use words to describe how they are feeling.

All teachers at St Mary's R.C Primary School follow the homework policy.

In Nursery we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Home learning	Friday	Monday	Have fun with your child doing the activities in their home learning books
Reading	Monday	The following Monday	Read the story to your child, get them to guess what will happen next, talk about the pictures.

Owing to the Covid 19 epidemic and the need to social distance, unfortunately there will be no assemblies or nativities in the Autumn term.

Classroom Reminders

Please, make sure your child is wearing the correct Early Years uniform.

ENSURE THAT EVERY ITEM IS CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

All children must wear a coat to school, a cardigan is not enough. We play outside no matter the weather. ☔☔

Please bring a spare set of clothing for your child.

Reading books are changed on Mondays.

Kind regards,

Mrs Liz Ostrowski
Class Teacher

Ms Belinda Boyce
Ms Melissa Traynor
Support Staff