



**Term:** Autumn 1 2021  
**Year Group:** 2

### 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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
English	This half term we will be focusing on <b>traditional tales</b> , in particular Hansel and Gretel. We will be using 2 versions of this familiar fiction text to support understanding of <b>varying sentence types</b> such as; <b>B.O.Y.S.</b> and <b>2A_d</b> sentences. Additionally, we will use this text as a stimulus to create an <b>instructional</b> piece of non-fiction writing and fictional <b>descriptive writing</b> independently.	Continue to listen to and read to your child daily, focusing on the adjectives (describing words) used within the text to help increase your child's vocabulary. Also, spending some time on spellings, letter formation and basic understanding of sentence structure such as; capital letters, finger spaces between words and full stops to end a sentence.
Maths	This half term we are focusing on <b>Place Value</b> . We are learning to count, read, write and represent numbers to 100; identify 10 more and 10 less of numbers to 100; <b>Ordering numbers; Comparing numbers</b> using the language 'equal to', 'more than' and 'less than'.	Any additional practise reading and counting numbers to 100 accurately will be a huge help. E.g. identifying bus or house numbers, counting out pieces of pasta for dinner etc. Focus on learning 10 times tables this half term.
RE	This half term we will be learning about <b>Families</b> . We will be thinking about beginnings linked to <b>Baptism</b> to develop	Discuss their immediate family or 'wider family' with them. Think about events, signs and symbols

	our understanding of sign and symbols linked to the domestic church.	linked to new beginnings they have/may part-take in. Continue to explore that community can also be part of their 'family'. Attend a church if possible to help put into context some of the symbols we will be discussing in class.
Science	This term we will be <b>observing and performing simple tests</b> linked to materials. Over the term the children will investigate the <b>properties of everyday materials</b> to understand their suitability for different purposes.	Continue to discuss the different types of materials that are around your house. If possible, try out more experiments to compare material suitability.
History	This half term we will focus on History. Children will investigate the <b>significant event of 1666</b> compared to <b>2017 fire in London</b> . We will investigate how the fire happened in addition to, the differences between the present day and the <b>17<sup>th</sup> century</b> .	Explore London with your children. Either through the internet or visits to key landmarks (Tower of London or The Monument). We live in a capital – please make the most of it!
Computing	Children will be using our topic to learn how to: create characters to retell the story of The Great Fire of London. We will be using <b>Book Creator</b> to develop our computing skills, as well as using the iPads to record.	Remind children of how to use technology sensible. Encourage your child (with support) to use the internet to find out as much as they can about The Great Fire of London, as a way to develop keyboard skills.
PE	Children will be continuing to enhance their basic movement skills through different and activities. They will focus on trying to develop their running, jumping, throwing and catching skills. They will also be working on developing their balance, agility and coordination and trying to apply these skills into team game situations.	While the weather is still decent enjoy Battersea Park and outdoor areas to further support your child' gross motor skills. Additionally, play some music at home and dance around with them, trying to get them to move in time to the beat.
Music	Children will learn how to warm up their voices, control them and how to sing scales that we hear with an emphasis on control of the voice, and to improve tone; adopting proper singing stances; pronunciation. They'll be introduced to simple music notation; pulse, crotchet, quaver and to be able to read and play simple music score with percussion.	Introduce your child to different genres of music and teach them the words for what instruments are playing. (Like a trumpet in Jazz etc.) Explain different parts to them. For example the drums are doing this but the singer is doing that.

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

In year 2 we will follow this homework timetable:

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. Use the Spelling Shed website, login details are on the back of your child's reading record.
Maths			Reading questions and ensuring that they understand the questions. Ask your child to explain how they got the answer. Use Mathletics and TT Rockstars as additional practice, login details are on the back of your child's reading record.
English			Discuss with your child what they are going to write, reminding them to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sound it out</li> <li>- Use capital letters</li> <li>- Use full stops</li> <li>- Use finger spaces</li> <li>- Form letters correctly</li> </ul>
Reading	Children are expected to bring in their signed reading record and books to school every day. Books will be changed on a Tuesday providing it has been recorded and signed to acknowledge that they have read.	Read with your child, correcting any mistakes and asking questions that support their comprehension of the book. Children are expected to read at least <b>5 times a week</b> . They are not expected to finish one book a day, and should be reading at least 10 to 15 minutes each time.	

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 2 are Tuesday and Friday.**

**Please remember to remove your child's earrings on a Tuesday and Friday.**

Kind regards,

Miss Brown, Ms Galvis and Miss Viegas