



Term: Autumn 1 2021
Year Group: 4

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
English	Our work for most of this half term will be based on Pie Corbett's 'The Cobbler and the Dragon'. After learning this story, the children will write their own version making changes. We will then begin the wonderful Michael Morpurgo story of 'The Butterfly Lion'.	Encourage children to read other books by the author Michael Morpurgo . Encourage children to read non-chronological books about Ancient Egypt so they will become more confident with the unfamiliar language.
Maths	<p><u>Number – Place Value</u></p> <p>Count in multiples of 6, 7, 9. 25 and 1000.</p> <p>Find 1000 more or less than a given number.</p> <p>Recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens and ones)</p> <p>Order and compare numbers beyond 1000</p> <p>Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations.</p> <p>Round any number to the nearest 10,</p>	<p>When shopping with your child ask them to add up the price of a small shop by rounding each item to the nearest 10p or £1 and adding them as you put them in your basket.</p> <p>Daily practise of addition and subtraction number bonds up to 10, 20 the 100 and beyond if your child is not already secure. Your child should already know their 2,3,4,5,8 and 10 times tables, if they don't they will need extra practise to catch up</p>

	<p>100 or 1000</p> <p>Solve number and practical problems that involve all the above and with increasingly large positive numbers. Count backwards through zero to include negative numbers.</p> <p><u>Number- Addition and Subtraction</u></p> <p>Add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction where appropriate. Estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation. Solve addition and subtraction two step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why.</p>	<p>(children should know all their tables up to 12 x 12 and division facts by the end of this year) Encourage daily practise on Times table rockstar and hit the button-ten minutes a day focusing on one table a week will make a difference.</p> <p>Discuss and support children when completing homework. Choose a few questions and encourage your child to prove to you that their answers are correct when they complete their homework e.g. <i>How do you know that 123+167=290? Show me.</i></p>
RE	<p>Topic 1 – People</p> <p>Topic 2 – Holy Books</p>	<p>Discuss with your child their family trees. What do you know about your family? Share stories about their relatives including past generations if you know them. Share what would you like to find out about your family?</p> <p>Topic 2 – Talk to you child about their special books. Discuss with them why they are special to them and how they need to be treated</p>
Science	<p>States of matter</p> <p>This ‘States of Matter’ unit will teach the children about the differences between solids, liquids and gases, classifying objects and identifying their properties. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the weight of a gas. Furthermore, they will have chance to find the ideal temperature to melt chocolate.</p>	<p>Draw your child’s attention to when matter changes state. Encourage them to use the term condensation when they see it in the bathroom/ drinks bottles and evaporation to consolidate the technical terms. Read around the topic – there are lots of books at the library to borrow.</p>
History/ Geography	<p>Our first topic is Ancient Egypt</p> <p>The children will locate Ancient Egypt civilisation on a timeline. We will look at the importance of the Nile to the Egyptian way of life. They will also look at why the discovery of</p>	<p>Children always love this topic and there is so much to learn. Encourage your child to read around the topic and watch tv programmes about the subject.</p>

	Tutankhamen's tomb was significant due to finds found in the intact tomb.	
Computing	We will be creating a presentation using google slides.	We will be completing an Ancient Egyptian presentation so encourage your child to explore the topic. As a general skill, children should be familiar with the keyboard. Please encourage children to practise their typing skills by using the BBC Dance Mat http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr Although the tasks are quite easy they will need a lot of support to repeat the tasks so they are proficient.
PE	Year 4 will be learning Hockey throughout this term. The aim will be to enhance their dribbling, control, passing, shooting and tackling so that they become more competent when using these skills during game situations. Here they will also be trying to improve their positioning and spatial awareness in games. The children will also be having gymnastics lessons in PE this half term.	To help your children at home, you can continue to practice the skills needed for hockey and gymnastics. Encourage them to watch the sports if they are on television or look back at the recent Olympics for both sports to see them performed at the highest level.
Music	The children will be working towards a singing performance with year 3.	Encourage your child to practise the songs they are learning at home.
Italian (KS2 only)	This half term, we will be focusing on the following - Parts of the day and the related greeting - Introducing yourself - What is his/her name? - The alphabet – Spelling of name/surname - School types of furniture - The four seasons in music: Autumn Grammar What is his/her name? Prepositions of place.	Encourage your child to share what they are learning in class.

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

In year 4 we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Spellings	Thursday	Monday	Practise daily – help your child to identify the tricky part of the spelling and focus on this part. Encourage your child to use the new words/spelling when talking and try to incorporate it in your vocabulary so they can practise using it and hear it in context. Discuss spellings in their reading books Revisit spellings with your child
Maths	Thursday	Monday	Revisit their number bonds regularly (addition and subtraction) to help with their fluency. Encourage your child to talk about what they have to do in their homework and how they will do it. Select a few of the questions and ask the children to explain how they got the answer. Encourage children to access hit the button, Mathletics and Times tables rock stars.
English			Encourage your child to discuss what they are going to write first then write to the best of their ability. Read through their work and help them to edit for mistakes in spelling and punctuation. Support children when using dictionaries and thesaurus to improve their word choices.
Reading	Every day	Reading records returned daily	Children need to be reading every day. Listen to your child read and read to your child to develop their love of books. Ask children to summarise a section of what they have been reading, identifying the key points.

PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have specialist teachers and coaches. Please send your child wearing their PE kit on Tuesday and Wednesdays. Any absences from PE need to be explained in a letter.

PE days for Year 4 are **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**.

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

Kind regards,

Miss Crowley and Ms Thompson
Class Teachers

Intervention teachers and Support Staff