



Term: Autumn 1 2021
Year Group: 5

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	<p>Greek Myths: We are using Greek myths (eg. Pandora's Box, King Midas, Perseus) to explore persuasive and narrative writing. We will continue to focus on punctuation and using adjectives to make our writing more interesting!</p>	<p>Read through your child's English homework and, as well as answering his or her questions, ask your child: "Why have you written that?" and: "Can you make that more interesting?" Also, read with your child and encourage them to read independently.</p>
Maths	<p>We have been helping children to revise their times tables and number facts as they settle back into maths lessons.</p> <p>Place Value: We will be focussing on reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers to at least 1,000,000.</p> <p>We will count forwards and backwards in steps of 10, 100, 1,000 from any number. We will be adding and subtracting mentally and multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100.</p>	<p>Assist with your child's homework! Please ask your child simple times tables questions all the time – eg: "What is 7 x 8?" Encourage the use of mathematical language eg: "How many digits are there in the number 10,000?" Encourage your child to use Mathletics – they know their logins and it makes maths fun!</p>
RE	<p>Ourselves and Life Choices: What makes us unique, what do we like doing, what are our talents and qualities? What</p>	<p>Pray every night with your child and encourage them to pray on their own. Encourage selfless prayer: asking God</p>

	<p>makes a good friendship? What are our responsibilities to our friends?</p>	<p>for forgiveness and asking God to guide and help their friends and friendships. Talk to your child about their day at school and discuss their friendships.</p>
Science	<p>Forces: We will be looking at gravity, friction, air resistance and leverage. We will be working scientifically by: planning, measuring, recording, predicting, selecting evidence and reporting.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to research this topic – BBC bitesize has some excellent videos featuring Dick and Dom. Ask your child questions using scientific language, eg: “Can you predict how many blue vans will pass in the next 5 minutes? 10 minutes?”</p>
History	<p>Ancient Greeks: We have started our topic by examining artefacts and making inferences and predictions about them. Next, we will do some research to find out if we were correct. Later in the half-term, we will discuss many different aspects of Ancient Greece, including politics, the Olympic Games and architecture.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to research and read about the Greeks by using the internet and by choosing books from the library. Ask them questions that fire their imagination, such as “Would you have liked to have lived in Ancient Greece?” and the essential follow-up question: “Why?”</p>
Computing	<p>General IT skills will be incorporated into lessons such as English, Maths and Topic. We will be using iPads and computers to research and record our findings. In addition, we will have computing lessons in which we will learn how to produce a presentation about Ancient Greece using Google Slides.</p>	<p>You can download coding programmes such as ‘scratch’ for free at home! Encourage your child to play educational games, such as Mathletics, on computers or tablets.</p>
PE	<p>Year 5 will be learning Basketball this term. They will be aiming to develop their passing, shooting and dribbling. There will be a focus on being able to demonstrate these skills in both isolation and in combination. They will be trying to improve their proficiency in scoring movements within games such as the lay up. During games, they will be working to improve their understanding of tactics of both attacking and defending.</p>	<p>To help your children at home, you can continue to practice the skills needed for basketball and athletics.</p>
Music	<p>We will be focusing on utilising the instrumental and note-reading skills learned in previous years and studying the elements of music.</p>	<p>Expose your child to a range of music: pop, rap, jazz, classical. Discuss harmony and rhythm.</p>

Italian (KS2 only)	In Italian this half term, we will be focussing on the following: Greetings, introducing yourself, questions about personal and general information The weather The four Seasons Classroom language The Italian alphabet The Family Christmas in Italy	Encourage your child to share what they've been learning in Italian after their lessons on Fridays. Perhaps they can teach you some new words each week!
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All teachers at St Mary's R.C Primary School follow the homework policy.

In year * we will follow this homework timetable:

Subject	Handed out	Due in on	How you can help
Spellings	Fridays	Tuesdays	Test your child and ask them to use the words in sentences.
Maths	Fridays	Tuesdays	Check and assist if needed.
English	Fridays		Tuesdays
Reading	Children should be reading for at least twenty minutes every evening at home.		In Year Five, children are allowed to fill in their own Reading Records. However, we ask that you please listen to your child read and sign their Record at least once a week. Discuss books together to help them to grow in their love of reading.

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

PE days for Year 5 are Tuesday and Friday.

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

Kind regards,

Miss Bailey-Green (Class Teacher)

Mrs Payne (Teaching Assistant)

Miss Webb (Teaching Assistant)

Mrs Knight (English Teacher)

Mr Shoubber (Maths Teacher)