



**Term:** Autumn 1 2021  
**Year Group:** 6

### 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	We will be reading, 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. Children will write diary entries from the perspective of the children and adults from the book, newspaper reports and fact files. They will be using their knowledge of the Victorians in order to build an atmosphere. This half term we will continue to build up our understanding of different types of texts by answering comprehension questions.	<p>All of these authors were writing in the Victorian period – so any opportunity to immerse in this history would be really useful.</p> <p>Head to a Victorian-inspired museum: The Geffrye Museum in Shoreditch; or see how the poorest children of the past lived at the Ragged School Museum in Mile End.</p> <p>Some good ideas here on how to get in to the Victorian spirit in London:  <a href="https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/england/london/articles/how-to-experience-victorian-london/">https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/england/london/articles/how-to-experience-victorian-london/</a></p>
Maths	We are learning about place value and how we use the four operations. We will be using our knowledge to reason and problem solve so we have a very in-depth knowledge of it.	The children will start to receive daily homework to match their schoolwork, if necessary. Sometimes they may require support, or someone to talk with so that they can reason through the problems.

RE	We will explore 'loving' as a theme – parables such as The Prodigal Son and The Lost Sheep are good examples of God's unconditional love.	Reading or telling your favourite parables or stories about love would be a useful activity. Your love for your child is unconditional and we hope to showcase this on our class RE table. <b>If you could find a picture that depicts your love for your family we would love if you would share a copy with us for the half-term.</b>
Science	Our first topic in Science this year is 'Staying Alive'. We are going to take a journey around the human circulatory system; we will be discovering what factors affect our health such as exercise, diet and lifestyle.	There are plenty of child appropriate documentaries on Netflix, YouTube or BBC iPlayer which explore this topic. These may help the children to understand the wondrous human body!
History	This half term we will be learning about the Victorians and the Industrial Revolution! We will travel back in time to explore different aspects of Victorian life and make comparisons to life today. We will be exploring the impact this era has on life today.	If possible, head to a Victorian inspired museum: The Geffre Museum in Shoreditch; or see how the poorest children of the past lived at the Ragged School Museum in Mile End.
Computing	This half term Year 6 will be using Google Classroom. They will be learning to use this to create a presentation about our topic, Victorians.	Please remind your child of safety when using the internet by monitoring their use of websites and discussing positive possibilities of the internet could help them to understand why this technology can be a double edged sword. Allow your child to present their homework using either power point or word processor to improve their confidence with using a computer. Go through the Acceptable Use Policy with your child and keep reminding them of good practise on devices.
PE	Throughout this term Year 6 will be learning basketball. They will be aiming to become more proficient at passing, shooting, dribbling, blocking and rebounding so that they can easily apply these into game situations. There will be a big focus on spatial awareness, tactical understanding of both attacking and	To help your children at home, you can continue to practice the skills needed for basketball and football, such as; throwing and catching.

	defending situations and effective communication. Here they will also be introduced to self-reflection, where they will be encouraged to give themselves feedback and critique and compare their performance with previous examples in order to achieve their best.	
Music	The children will be learning how to play the Ukulele. The children will start exploring open strings and develop onto chords. They will learn a collection of technical exercises that will develop into structured pieces. The children will learn to play as an ensemble, small groups and individually.	Talk to your child about what they have been learning in music. Encourage your child to listen to a range of music from all different artists and ages from: Classical, Folk, Pop, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Etc Explore the BBC Music channel <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise">www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise</a>
Italian (KS2 only)	Children will be learning: ways to greet each other; how to introduce yourself; ask questions about personal and general information; the weather; the four Seasons; classroom language; the family and daily routine	Talk to your child about what they are learning in Italian and encourage them to practise taught words and phrases to gain confidence.

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

In year 6 we will follow this homework timetable:

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.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- comprehension</li> <li>- grammar, punctuation and spelling tasks</li> <li>- writing</li> </ul>
Handwriting			Make sure your child practises forming letters correctly. Encourage your child to use joined up writing.
Reading	<b>Every day</b> – 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.		<p>Read with them, correcting any mistakes and asking questions that support their comprehension of the book</p> <p>Children are expected to read <b>every day</b>. They should be reading at least 15 to 20 minutes each time.</p>

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 day for Year 6 is Thursday.**

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on a Thursday.

Kind regards,

Miss Liu

Mr Shoubber and Mrs Knight

Mr Drinan