



Term: Autumn 2 2021
Year Group: 1

Information For Parents

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to school after the half term break. We do hope the children are feeling rested and refreshed and ready for the busy half term ahead, which is already packed full of events, including Remembrance Day services, Parent/Teacher Consultations (via School Cloud), Year 5 school journey to Gilwell Park, Year 6 School Journey to Sayers Croft, visits from Chelsea Football, Coco (our reading support dog). Then of course, over the holy period of December, we will begin Advent preparations in the lead up to Christmas.

And on that note, as the season of Advent approaches, please encourage your children to reflect on the message from Sunday's Gospel and The Feast of All Saints. Encourage them to think about how they can be a 'blessing' to others. As the Wednesday Word states:

"On Sunday 31st October we celebrate the feast of 'All Saints'- those people whom the church recognises as models of love and who are already in heaven. In this Sunday's Gospel, the blessings which promise happiness are called the Beatitudes and they show us the path that will lead us closer to God. ***The saints tried hard to follow the teaching of the beatitudes in their day-to day lives and Jesus called us to do the same.*** Ask your child what the word 'saint' means to them. Which saints have they heard about? Which one is their favourite and why? Are they, or you, named after a saint or do they know anyone who is named after a saint? Which people do you know who try to follow these teachings and show some of the saintly qualities described in this Gospel?"

Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to see and admire the saintly qualities in others and help me to grow more like you each day.

Amen

Please also continue to 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)

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>This half term our topic is London. We will be looking at a range of texts connected to our topic including: The Queen's Knickers, Katie in London and also The Day the Donkey Quit. We will use these texts to inspire a range of independent writing, including aspects of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Postcards · Information text · Using the suffix -ing 	<p>Use any available stories that talk about London and its attractions to support the children's learning within the classroom. Use questioning to encourage the children to discuss attractions and features of London, Encourage your child to write a different range of texts, such as letters and diary entries.</p>
Maths	<p>This term we are focusing on Addition and Subtraction. We will continue to use equipment and contexts to support the children as they add numbers to and past 20, using both resources, drawings and the number line to help them. We will also be exploring 3D and 2D shapes and patterns in everyday objects.</p>	<p>Any additional practise reading and counting numbers to 100 accurately. Also, any additional practise adding and subtracting small numbers in their heads. Encourage children to talk about the shapes in our everyday environment and identify the properties of each shape.</p>
RE	<p>We will be looking at Judaism and Abraham. We will look at the beginning of Judaism and the life of Abraham. We will look at Advent and what it means to have to wait for things, as well as the nativity story.</p>	<p>Look at different religions and how they celebrate different events. Talk about Christmas and the true meaning of it.</p>

Science	We will use our topic to explore the features and differences between various animals including humans. We will use our understanding to design ideal meals for animals and humans.	Discussing the importance of a balanced meal with the children alongside reminding them of the names and uses of their various body parts supports their understanding. Talk about animals and the different types and what animals eat.
Geography	We will be beginning to think about our surrounding area of Battersea and London. What makes it special and the London Landmarks we are surrounded by. We will be aiming to use a range of art/DT and ICT to find out about these landmarks	Explore London with your children. Either through the internet or visits to key landmarks. They live in a capital – make the most of it!
Computing	Children will be using different apps on the iPads to negotiate different commands. We will be using the internet to find and import pictures from the internet on the iPad and using these images to make an ebook. We will also be using the internet to type and research London landmarks.	Encourage the children (with support) to use the internet to find out as much as they can about toys. Encouraging safe use of the internet will enable them to discover its uses alongside developing keyboard skills.
PE	The children will be developing the fundamental movement skills in gymnastics. They will be doing this through a range of activities and circuits that will aim to improve their running, jumping, throwing and catching. Here there will be a focus on enhancing their gross motor skills and being able to perform an action/skill repeatedly.	At the park with a ball, encourage hand eye coordination by using throwing and catching skills. For gymnastics practice handstands, shoulder stands, forward rolls, bridge and walking like different animals to build up strength
Music	Children will continue their basic knowledge of music notation; crotchets and rest, and learning to play simple music notation via the xylophone. Children will be listening to a wide array of music, they will be encouraged to respond to this music through other means of expression, such as writing, drawing, or speech, sometimes a combination of	Play nursery rhymes at home and encourage the kids to sing along or move in time. Introduce children to different genres of music whilst listening at home; exploring different radio stations or exploring genre's on music platforms.

	<p>methods. The aim is for children to make associations between music and these other forms of expression. Children will continue to make contributions to the class lessons, either through suggestion, role playing, or performing solos, either with voice or instrument.</p>	
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All teachers at St Mary's R.C Primary School follow the homework policy.

In year 1 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 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			Reading questions and ensuring that they understand the questions. Ask your child to explain how they got the answer
English			Discuss with your child what they are going to write and reminding them to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sound it out - Use capital letters - Use full stops - Use finger spaces
Reading	<p>Every day – Children are expected to bring in their reading books with the diary every day and will be changed at least twice a week providing it has been recorded and signed to acknowledge that they have read.</p>		<p>Read with them and correcting any mistakes and asking questions that support their comprehension of the book Children are expected to read at least 5 times a week. They are not expected to finish one book a day, and should be reading at least 10 to 15 minutes each time.</p>

Owing to the Covid 19 epidemic and the need to social distance, unfortunately there will be no assemblies or nativities in the Autumn term. However, virtual Advent services and Nativities will take place like last academic year.

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.

Kind regards,

Miss O'Riordan

Mrs Mary-Ann

Miss Lerena