



## Information for Parents

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back after the half-term break. We hope that you and your family had a relaxing time.

Despite the recent stormy weather, Spring is definitely on its way! The Spring bulbs are out and the days are gradually becoming lighter.

During this period of Lent, it is a perfect time for the children to reflect upon their personal goals, attitude to learning and the choices that they make at school and at home.

*'Lent is a special time when the Church invites everyone to examine their lives, to make Lenten promises and make a fresh start with God and with each other. It's a time to make a change for the better by turning away from things which are wrong for ourselves or others.'*

**Please continue to develop positive learning behaviours at home and in school by encouraging your child to:**

- Show *curiosity* and *creativity* by discussing their homework with you, asking questions related to their learning and suggesting ideas.
- Demonstrate *concentration* by finding a quiet area in which to study and organising what they need to complete their homework
- Show *effort, improvement, perseverance* and *resilience* by completing homework tasks fully, to a good standard of presentation and to the best of their ability
- Demonstrate *teamwork* by speaking to their class (or set teacher) before the due date if they need assistance or clarification, and ensuring that they hand homework in on time, so that the class can work together when revising learning and addressing misconceptions.

*Dear Lord Jesus,*

*Please help us to be good friends to our family, our neighbours and all who we meet through our words and actions.*

*Amen*

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
<b>English</b>	<p>In this half-term, we will be reading Wonder by RJ Palacio. It tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with differences who enters the fifth grade. We will be looking at the key features of persuasive writing and letter writing and writing examples of both.</p> <p>Whilst reading, they will draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence. The children will predict what might happen from details stated and implied. They will participate in discussion about the book, taking turns and listening to what others say.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to jot down interesting words, phrases or sentences that they have enjoyed in the books they are reading.</p> <p>Play story games where you take turns to say a sentence in a story. Where will your story take you?</p> <p>We will be looking at persuasive texts so encourage your child to identify the language used in adverts to persuade the viewer to purchase the product.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>This half-term we will be focusing on fractions and decimals. The children will:</p> <p>Recognise and show, using diagrams, families of common equivalent fractions. Count up and down in hundredths; recognise that hundredths arise when dividing an object by one hundred and dividing tenths by ten.</p> <p>Solve problems involving increasingly harder fractions to calculate quantities, and fractions to divide quantities, including non-unit fractions where the answer is a whole number.</p> <p>Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator.</p> <p>Decimals</p> <p>Recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths.</p> <p>Find the effect of dividing a one or two digit number by 10 or 100, identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths</p> <p>Solve simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals to two decimal places.</p> <p>Convert between different units of measure [for example, kilometre to metre]</p>	<p>Help your child to measure accurately using a range of measures. Please sit with your child making sure they are measuring accurately whether it be using length, mass and capacity. All of the children in Year 4 love to cook, so help them to measure ingredients accurately when doing so at home.</p>
<b>RE</b>	<p>Our first topic this half term is the Eucharist- giving and receiving</p> <p>The children will know and understand: the impact of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giving and receiving every day</li> <li>• The Eucharist challenges and enables living and growing in communion</li> </ul> <p>The second topic revolves around Lent and Easter</p>	<p>Please discuss the following questions with your child:</p> <p>Why is giving important as well as receiving?</p> <p>What are the joys and demands of giving and receiving?</p> <p>Why is giving and receiving important in any group?</p> <p>Why is it important to live in communion?</p> <p>During Lent, discuss how your family prepares for Easter.</p>

<b>Science</b>	<p>Our topic this half term is electricity. Within this unit the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers</li> <li>• identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery</li> <li>• recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit</li> <li>• recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.</li> </ul>	<p>Encourage your child to read around the topic. With supervision, help them to create experiments that they are interested in.</p>
<b>History/ Geography</b>	<p>In this topic, we will travel back to the time of the early village settlers as we discover how the towns and villages around us got their names and why certain areas were chosen as settlements. These historical Geography lessons are designed not only to give the children in year four a greater understanding of how our villages were formed, but also to improve their map knowledge and skills. The class will discover how reading maps can tell them what a village is like and will allow them to practise giving directions using their knowledge of different types of roads.</p>	<p>If you have maps at home, encourage your children to explore them. Do you have a map of where you live? Encourage them to look closely at why settlements came about. Are there any physical features that still remain?</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p>We will be looking at coding using hopscotch during this half term.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to engage with coding apps on their devices such as Scratch.</p>
<b>PE</b>	<p>In PE this term, Year 4 will be playing hockey. The aim is to help develop their balance, co-ordination and control when dribbling with the ball and also their co-ordination when passing. They will be doing a mix of dribbling drills, passing drills and game situations within their lessons.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to improve their level of fitness. Why not try out Sport England's Join the Movement for some whole family fun?</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p>Children will be using musical notation to play pieces of music on the glockenspiel.</p>	<p>Listen to a wide range of music. Discuss preferences.</p>

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

**In Year 4 we will follow this homework timetable:**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Handed out</b>	<b>Due in on</b>	<b>How you can help</b>
<b>Spellings</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	Practise daily – help your child to identify the tricky part of the spelling and focus on this part. Discuss spellings in their reading books. Revisit spellings with your child
<b>Maths</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	Select a few of the questions and ask the children to explain how they got the answer.
<b>English</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	Encourage your child to read a range of books including non-fiction.
<b>Reading</b>	Children are expected to read each night and fill in their reading records.		

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 these days. Any absences from PE need to be explained in a letter.

PE days for Year 4 are Wednesday and Friday.

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

Kind regards,  
Miss Crowley  
Class Teacher  
Ms Thompson and Mrs Webb  
Support Staff