



Sacred Heart
Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2020
Beside the Seaside

Welcome back!

In this termly newsletter, there will be: important class information, an outline of the topics we are covering this term, and some more detail on how school routines have been adapted to meet government regulations surrounding COVID-19.

Class Information

- Miss Rachel McClenaghan is the Year 2 class teacher.
- She is supported by two teaching and learning assistants: Mrs Grace Perrott and Ms Rihana James.
- Mrs Perrott is with us all day Monday, Thursday and Friday and Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.
- Ms James is with us all day Tuesday and Wednesday and then Thursday and Friday mornings.
- On Wednesday and Thursday afternoons Mrs Dell'Anno will be teaching in Year 2.
- On a Wednesday, she will be joined by Mrs Fogg for the children's weekly Music lesson.
- On a Thursday afternoon, the children will also be visited by Junior Jam. They will experiment with different computing games and applications using the iPads.
- The start of the day is a busy time preparing for lessons so we ask that appointments be made for a convenient time after school. We will try to respond to emails received within 48 hrs. If urgent please notify the office. Miss McClenaghan's email address is rmcclenaghan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk.

Covid-19 Routines and Practices

There is a Risk Assessment detailing all the measures currently in place but rest assured every precaution is being taken to ensure that children are learning in a safe environment.

- Tables are disinfected at the end of every session and children are washing their hands at the beginning and end of every lesson.
- Children are all sat at forward-facing tables with regular socially-distanced movements breaks.
- Any activities are done within the KS1 bubble and the children are not mixing with other year groups.
- Assemblies are being held remotely.

School Routines and Equipment

Children are expected to be in school between 8:45am and 9:00am and collected at 3:10pm. They are dropped off and picked up from the Main School Entrance.

Children should bring their book bag to school every day with their Reading Record and reading books. Every child should have a water bottle (and a packed lunch if they have one). Your child will need to bring a coat in as the weather becomes cooler.

The children have PE every **Tuesday and Friday** and should come to school wearing their PE kit. They should have the new indoor PE kit which consists of a Sacred Heart Maroon T-shirt, navy blue school shorts or skort, white socks and trainers. They should also have the existing outdoor PE kit. All PE will be outdoors for at least the first half term so the children should always wear trainers.

All children must be encouraged to bring water bottles and a playtime healthy snack. This should either be a piece of fruit or a fruit bar (no nuts/chocolate/crisps).

Children should not be wearing jewellery and long hair should always be tied back. Please ensure all clothing and belongings are still named.

Routines have been set regarding handwashing, sanitising and cleaning off equipment and tables etc... The children have been fantastic with these and we appreciate your support with this.

Home Learning

Phonics

For the next few weeks as we prepare for the postponed Phonics Screening, children may have Phonics tasks sent home to help revise and consolidate Phonics sessions in school. Please work through this Home Learning with your child to ensure they are confident in their Phonics knowledge.

Spellings

After half term, children will have a weekly list of spellings words to learn. Spelling folders will be given out on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. There will be a variety of tasks to help consolidate their spellings.

English and Maths Home Learning

Children will receive English and Maths home learning every week. They will also get occasional Home Learning linked to RE or Learning Themes.

Every child now has a Google Classroom account that will be the main tool for communicating about Home Learning. Information and resources will mainly be posted on Google Classroom and children should log onto their accounts to access it. With your help, children can communicate with me on Google Classroom if there are any questions.

Depending on the content, children may have resources sent home or have additional tasks set up on another online platform like Mathletics or My Maths.

Home Learning will be assigned on Google Classroom on a Friday and should be handed in by the following Wednesday.

If you have any problems with accessing your child's Google Classroom account, please email me.

Reading

Now, more than ever, it is very important to hear your child read in Year 2. They should read for 10 minutes each evening. Please sign their Reading Record book. We should be encouraging the children to sound out and blend any unfamiliar words and check that they fully comprehend what they are reading.

The children will receive three books on a Monday from the Oxford Reading Tree scheme. These will be taken in on a Friday. The children will then take a book from the Year 2 book corner home on a Friday to encourage reading for pleasure over the weekend. These books should be returned on Monday.

All books will be wiped clean on return to school and will not be shared across bubbles.

Curriculum

Our curriculum theme this term is Beside the Seaside. Where possible, learning will be linked to the seaside to contextualise our learning to encourage a deeper understanding and a real love of learning.

Catch-up Curriculum

As a school, our aim is to ensure that our pupils have a broad and balanced education, while ensuring that they catch-up on the fundamental skills in English and Mathematics missed during the summer term of 2020.

English, and in particular reading, underpins our understanding of everything we are asked to learn within school. If we cannot understand the information that is being presented to us, either orally or in written form, we cannot hope to move forward with completing the tasks/learning challenges being set.

As we move through this first part of the autumn term, the curriculum will be heavily focused on getting the basics right. We will focus on reading and the skills for reading and comprehension, as well as, the basics for writing – Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation – these are non-negotiables for each year group and build systematically across the school. Through our GSP focus, we will look to enthuse the children with a love of language which they will be encouraged to transfer into their writing.

With Mathematics, we will continue to follow the White Rose curriculum, as this has been found to be systematic and effective in building pupils understanding. As a support to schools, White Rose have provided a recovery plan for each year group which we will be using to ensure that any gaps in learning are addressed.

English

Using class texts as a stimulus, the children will practice writing for many different purposes including: descriptive writing, explanation texts, persuasive writing and recounting a narrative. The children will also learn how to develop the quality of their writing using a range of skills including:

- Revising Y1 learning such as: capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.
- Using a range of correct punctuation to demarcate different sentence functions.
- Using conjunctions like 'and', 'or' and 'but' to join sentences.
- Using expanded noun phrases.
- Spelling Y1/2 common exception words correctly.
- Spelling some words with contracted forms.
- Using the present and past tense consistently.
- Writing in a cursive style, forming letters correctly.
- Proofreading and correcting writing.

Maths

We are incorporating the Maths Mastery philosophy into our teaching of Mathematics. The basis of this is that every child should enjoy and succeed in Maths. By using accessible activities that promote number fluency and consolidating understanding with reasoning and problem-solving activities, knowledge of Maths is contextualised and rich rather than instrumental.

Number and Place Value:

- Recognise the place value of each digit in a 2-digit number.
- Compare and order numbers 0 to 100 using > < = signs.
- Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and words.

Addition and Subtraction:

- Solve addition and subtraction problems using concrete objects and pictorial representations.
- Recall addition and subtraction facts up to 20 and relate these to related facts up to 100.
- Add and subtract numbers using a variety of strategies.
- Show understanding that addition is commutative and that addition and subtraction have an inverse relationship.

Multiplication and Division:

- Recall multiplication facts for the 2, 5, and 10 times table.
- Recognise odd and even numbers.
- Show understanding of multiplication through repeated addition.
- Show understanding that multiplication is commutative but division is not.

Religious Education

The children will be following the 'Come and See' religious scheme of work. During our lessons, children will explore each theme through a combination of discussion, written work, reflection and prayer. Over the Autumn Term the children will cover three topics.

The Domestic Church – Family: Beginnings

The children will consider and discuss what new beginnings are and what it is like to have a new beginning. We will also look at the story of Creation as a way of explaining how God created the earth and everything in it. We will explore how God is present at all beginnings and how he loves us.

Baptism – Belonging: Signs and Symbols

We will discuss what signs and symbols are and how they are used within the Sacrament of Baptism. Using scripture and other religious sources, the children will consider the meaning behind a range symbols used during the Baptism ceremony.

Advent/Christmas – Loving: Preparations

During Advent when we are preparing to celebrate Christmas, we will talk about our own experiences and feelings when we are preparing for special occasions. The children will retell the stories of the Annunciation, the Visitation and Nativity and we will discuss and explore the signs and symbols connected with the liturgical season of Advent.

Science

Our topic for the Autumn Term will be Living Things and their Habitats.

The children will study a range of habitats to identify what living things live there and how they are suited to their environments. We will also consider what makes something living and use this knowledge to compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.

We will explore and consolidate these concepts using a range of scientific skills including: classification, scientific research, comparative observation, making predictions and simple fair testing. Children will further demonstrate their understanding, using the appropriate scientific terminology.

The children are also encouraged to be curious inquisitive and to ask questions. We will reflect on how our answers to scientific enquiries can have different answers.

Learning Themes

Geography

This half term, the children will study the human and physical geography of the seaside in the United Kingdom, using appropriate geographical vocabulary correctly. They will use maps and other geographical sources to locate seaside destinations, identifying seasonal weather patterns and consider the impact of tourism on the seaside.

History

After half term, the children will develop an awareness of the past through the context of how the seaside has changed over the last 100 years. The children will explore chronology and the passing of time. We will also discuss the continuities and changes that have occurred since the Victorians started visiting the seaside.

Art

The children will explore the artistic elements of line, shape and colour this term. We will study these concepts through the artistic styles of Piet Mondrian and Drew Brophy.

Computing

This term, we will look at how computers and technology work within our lives. Children will become familiar with basic vocabulary like "algorithm", "coding", "bug", "program" and will be introduced to basic coding through unplugged activities. Once children are more confident with what an algorithm is and what coding does, they will use basic computing programs to create and run simple programs.

Children will also be visited by Junior Jam every week. They will experience computing games and applications using the school iPads.

Design and Technology

The children will partake in projects where they design, make and evaluate purposeful, functional products. Over the course of this term, we will make hand puppets, bake and create Christmas crafts using a range of technical skills including cutting, shaping, joining and sewing.

Music

Mrs Fogg is the specialist Music Teacher. She teaches the children during weekly Music lessons. At the moment the children are not singing in class and so Mrs Fogg will be showing the children a range of different pieces of Music, both classical and contemporary. We will also explore different ways of making Music without singing such as body percussion.

PSCHE

Going for Goals

In addition to readjusting to our school rules and expectations, the children will consider other goals to work towards. We will work as a team to set a weekly focus including: being polite and helpful to adults around us, showing respect and kindness to one another and developing resilience.

Good to be Me

After half term, the children will take part in a series of self-reflection sessions. We will identify our own self-efficacy. We will consider what we like about ourselves and what we are good at as well as thinking constructively about those skills we would like to improve on.

PE and Dance

Due to Covid regulations, there will be no indoor PE session for at least this half term. Our theme for indoor PE this term is Dance and we will try to adapt the scheme of work to focus

more on Movement as this is more appropriate to an outdoor setting. Children will explore space and how their body can move to express ideas and feelings. They will expand their knowledge of travelling actions and use them in relation to a stimulus. They will use counts of 8 to keep in time with one another. Pupils will also explore pathways, levels, shapes, directions, speeds and timing. Children will have one Movement class every week. For the first half term, the children will also so have a session focused on Team Building. Pupils will develop their communication and problem-solving skills for a range of tasks, always with an emphasis on teamwork. They will learn to discuss, plan and reflect on ideas and strategies collaboratively.

Later on in the term, pupils will develop their fundamental ball skills such as throwing and catching, rolling, hitting a target, dribbling and kicking a ball.

Trips and Enrichment

The Government has advised that, in the autumn term, schools can resume non-overnight domestic educational visits. This includes any trips or placements connected with a pupil or student's preparation for adulthood (for example workplace visits, travel training, etc.).

At this time, a number of the planned educational visits have been cancelled by the providers as a result of their own risk assessments. In light of this, the school has taken the decision not to commence with educational visits until after the Autumn half term break and at this time, where trips are organised, these will be in line with protective measures, such as keeping children within their consistent group, and the coronavirus (COVID-19) secure measures in place at the destination.

The school is supported in its decision making around educational visits by an Educational Visits Adviser from our Health and Safety executive. The school makes use of this adviser to evaluate trips and the individual risk assessment for these trips.

Please be assured that as a school, we will do all we can to ensure your child receives as enriched a curriculum as feasible in the current climate.

ADDITIONAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 10th November and Thursday 12th November 4:00pm – 6:30pm – Parents Evenings

At this time the plan is for these to take place virtually.

Thursday 26th November at 9.30 am and 7:00pm – Sacred Heart Open Events

Thursday 10th December at 9.30 am – Christmas Nativity – Year 1 and 2

Monday 14th December at 7.00pm – Christmas Carol Concert - Juniors

The children have made a fantastic start to Year 2! They have adapted to new routines and expectations beautifully. Thank you so much for your continued support and understanding. I am really looking forward to a successful year working with your amazing children.

If you have any questions or any concerns regarding your child's well-being, please do not hesitate to contact me. As we are social distancing as much as possible at the start and end of each day, please email me mcclenaghan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk.

Many thanks,
Miss Rachel McClenaghan