

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery

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YEAR 5/6 INFORMATION LETTER

Happy New Year and welcome back to school after a very busy holiday! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and thank you again for all of the Christmas cards and very generous gifts.

This letter will give you details of the topics and homework for this term, so that you can support your child.

This term is a very busy and exciting term for the children. We have residential trips planned for both Year 5 and Year 6. Year 5 will be going on their trip to Phasels Wood from 14th - 16th March, and Year 6 will visit Manor Adventure from 12th - 16th March. There are parent information sessions for both of the residential trips on Wednesday 24th January. The meeting for Year 6 parents is at 6:00pm in the Year 5/6 classroom and the meeting for Year 5 parents will be in the Year 5 classroom at 5.30pm.

This term as preparation for secondary school, Year 6 homework will be handed out on a daily basis. They will have a short activity to complete each night, which needs to be returned completed the following day. In the past, Year 6 children have used some lunchtimes to get some of their work completed. Year 5 will continue to get their homework weekly and it will need to be completed by the following week. Both year groups will also have spelling words to learn and reading activities.

Reading

Your child should be reading a variety of texts on a regular basis so please continue to encourage them to read a wide selection including fiction and non-fiction, newspapers and leaflets etc. Each week there will be reading or reading related activities for your child to complete. Discussing the text with your child is very valuable including asking questions, likes and dislikes, identifying features of the characters, setting and plot.

Spellings

Spelling words will be sent home each week and these should be learned so that the words can be used and applied in a variety of situations. The children need to be able to use them correctly in their writing. Regularly practising the spellings for 5 or 10 minutes a day is more beneficial than once a week. This term the children have been given an extended list of words which they must know. Part of the new assessment criteria is that children are expected to know a variety of words and therefore they need to ensure that the words are in their long term memory which involves overlearning.

Multiplication Tables

It is important that your child has a solid grasp of the multiplication tables up to the 12 times table. They need to be able to recall the answer to questions very quickly and accurately. Please encourage your child to practice their tables regularly - chanting them is very effective - and ask

them relevant questions especially in the form of a problem. In class children will have times tables activities that are timed or against the clock.

Personal and Social Health Education

As the children are getting older, we encourage them to take greater responsibility for themselves, including ensuring that their uniforms, shoes, PE Kits and bodies are clean. This may mean daily showers or baths and using deodorant, if necessary. Some children may therefore need to bring their PE kit home more regularly for it to be washed.

Year 6

The Year 6 children will have more **revision style** activities this term and there will be a greater emphasis on them being more independent learners and taking a greater responsibility for their own learning as this is good preparation for secondary school.

SATs week will take place week beginning 14th May 2018 - a more detailed timetable will be sent home nearer the time.

Topics

In English and Maths the children follow the new curriculum for Maths and English, the homework will usually reflect and reinforce the topics that have been covered in the previous few weeks. The topics in the various subjects will include:

RE See information sheet on the school website

English This will include: reading and interpreting a variety of texts including reading Holes as a class text; writing non-chronological reports; constructing balanced arguments including participating in a class debate; and identifying and using formal and informal language. As part of our narrative work, each child will write a 500 word story which be entered into the BBC Radio 2 500 Words Story Competition.

There will also be a focus on different aspects of grammar

Maths This will include: solving word problems; using mathematical language and reasoning to explain how they have solved a problem; fractions, decimals and percentages; measurement; algebra; ratio; geometry and statistics. Mental computation skills are very important and all children need to ensure that they know and can recall their times tables up to 12×12 including the division tables, and be able to apply these to mental and written questions.

Science The topics for this term include Living Things and Their Habitats (focus - classification: plants, animals, microbes) and Evolution and inheritance (focus - evolution, adaption & inheritance).

Computing Information Models - Children use spreadsheet software to structure numeric information, making calculations using formulae and functions. They import data collected and analyse it using functions within the software. They carry out what-if modelling, using this for prediction and present results using graphs.

Humanities Our Geography topic is Mountains and our History topic is Britain during the War
ART/DT Printing and the works of Andy Warhol, and shelters - linking to our History unit on Britain during the War

PE This will include *Gymnastics and Games*.

I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you throughout the year.

Miss R M^cCarthy