AUTUMN 2025 TO SUMMER 2026

Curriculum NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning and loveing with Christ as our teacher

PHASE 3/4

ST BERNADETTE | ST PETER | ST ALPHONSA



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Phase 3/4, we hope you have had a good summer and had the opportunity to visit friends and family. As always, this will be a busy year and hopefully very enjoyable and rewarding too! In the following paragraphs you will find details of the topics for this year, so that you can support your child at home. More information about all subjects can be found on our school website: www.sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



These are the topics for the year:

Autumn Term
- Creation and Covenant
- Prophecy and Promise

Spring Term
- Galilee to Jerusalem
- Desert to Garden

Summer Term
- To the Ends of the Earth
- Dialogue and Encounter

As each class is named after a Saint, the children will learn more about their Saint, what makes them special and when their feast day is. The class saints are Saint Bernadette (Year 3), Saint Peter (Year 3/4), and Saint Alphonsa (Year 4).

Other Christian denominations and faiths studied, include: Judaism and Islam. More detailed information about the RE studied will be sent out at the beginning of each half term.

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Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

The children will develop their understanding of The Sacraments, friends, family & others, sharing online, chatting online, safe in my body, drugs, alcohol and tobacco, first aid heroes.

Reading

This year the children will continue to have a home reading book. Please continue to read with your child at home and comment in their reading record.

The children should be able to confidently read 95% of the text independently. Please ask questions to help your child's comprehension, such as: 'Can you describe the setting?' Who is your favourite character and why?' 'If you were to rewrite the ending, what would you change?'

Year group specific guides for supporting your child with reading are posted on the website. Please encourage your child to reread the text to continue to develop fluency.
Children who are reading books on the reading scheme will be given two books when they change their books. The children will change their books twice a week.

Children who are on free readers need to let their teacher know when they have finished their book. The children should be ideally reading a whole book a week and it should take no longer than two weeks to complete a book.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PHSE)

The children will develop their understanding of:
Health and Wellbeing (healthy lifestyles, making informed choices, good and not so good feelings, change).
Relationships (being kind, working and playing collaboratively, resolving disputes & co).
Living in the Wider World (rules, responsibilities, looking after the world, managing money, respecting differences, understanding the range of national, regional, religious and ethnic identifies in the United Kingdom, managing money).

Writing

We will be studying fiction and non-fiction texts each term as well as reading, writing and appreciating poetry.

In poetry we will look at vocabulary, structure and performance poetry. Children will be expected to apply their writing skills to other areas of the curriculum. In Daily Skills, handwriting, spelling and grammar will be taught discretely and then applied to all writing across all subjects. During the year they will continue to de□velop how to plan, edit, improve and differentiate parts of their writing.

On a weekly basis, handwriting, spelling and grammar will be taught discretely and then applied to all writing
across all subjects.

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Spelling

The children will be given spelling homework tasks each week. Throughout the week the children will practise learning their spellings through a range of activities. All children need to learn the common exception words for Year 3 and 4 and also ensure that they can use and apply the common exception words from Year 2 and 3.

Every half term the children's spellings are assessed. If there are any gaps in their learning these are adressed before moving onto the spelling rules below.

Year 3 pupils will focus on words with the long ei, ey, ai and ear sounds; homophones and near homo□phones; creating adverbs using the suffix ly, words with suffixes and prefixes. word families, words ending in ary and ure, words with the short –o sound and ou and silent letters and suffixes.

Year 4 pupils will focus on words spelt with augh and au; adding the prefixes in, im, il; homophones and near homophones, words ending in sion, ssion, tion, cian; words with ough, homophones and near homophones and words with suffixes, adverbials and prefixes.

Grammar

The Year 3 pupils will be expected to use adverbs, conjunctions and prepositions to start their sentences. They will be introduced to using inverted commas to punctuate direct speech (speech marks). They will be introduced to paragraphs as a way to group related material.

In addition to the above, Year 4 pupils will be expected to use fronted adverbials.; use paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme; and use inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech e.g. a comma before the speech – The conductor shouted, "Sit down!"

Further information about Reading, Spelling and Grammar can be found on the school's website— www.sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/english/

Computing

The topics that the children will learn about are:
coding,
online safety,
spreadsheets, touch typing, branching databases,
simulations, AI,
graphing and creating music.



Homework

Homework will be given out on Tuesdays via Google Classrooms and needs to be returned completed by the following Monday.

Useful Websites:
https://www.topmarks.co.uk/
https://www.timestables.co.uk/
https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-minute-maths
https://www.purplemash.co.uk

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Maths

The children use our Maths scheme: Maths No Problem.
As part of our daily lessons, children also develop their
number fluency and times tables.
Children will develop their knowledge of place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division as well as
shape, space and measure. There will be a greater focus on problem solving and reasoning within our lessons to
develop a deeper understanding of strategies and concepts learnt. A guide to supporting your child with learn□ing their times tables is posted on the website.
Year 3 children need to be secure with recognising the
place value of each digit in a 3-digit number and comparing and ordering numbers up to 1,000, including reading
and writing them. They need to add and subtract mental□ly up to 3-digits and carry out addition and subtraction
of 3-digit numbers using formal written methods.
By the end of Year 3, children are expected to be able to quickly recall the 2,5,10,3,4,8 times tables and related
division facts. Please support your child by helping them to improve their knowledge of multiplication facts.
Year 4 children need to be secure with recognising the place value of each digit in a 4-digit number and comparing and ordering numbers beyond 1,000, including reading and writing them. Add and subtract mentally up to 3-digits and addition and subtraction of 3-digit numbers using formal written methods.
By the end of Year 4, children are expected to be able to quickly recall all of the times tables up to multiples of 12 and the related division facts. The order to learn the tables is 1, 2 ,5, 10, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12. They will complete the Times Tables Check in the Summer Term.

Further information about Mathematics can be found on the school's website.

Humanities

The topics the children will study in Geography are:
Why do some earthquakes cause more damage than others? Beyond the Magic Kingdom: what is the Sunshine State really like? Why do so many people live in megacities?

The topics the children will study in History are: How did the lives of ancient Britons change during the Stone Age? What is the secret of the standing stones? (Bronze Age Britain) How do artefacts help us understand the lives of people in Iron Age Briton?

In both History and Geography, we will learn through looking at big questions, we will carry out research and use information sources to support our work.

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Science

Our topics in Science this year are:
¨ Animals including humans
¨ Rocks
¨ Forces & Magnets
¨ Light
¨ Plants



Creative Arts

In Art, children will develop their skills in 3D Art, drawing and textiles.

The DT topics that the children will be learning are:
Electrics: Static Game
Structures: Castles
Food: Biscuits

We look forward to sharing our work with you.



Music

The children will be developing their skills and understanding of pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and notation.

The children will learn to play simple tunes on the glockenspiel and the recorder and read notation.

In the Spring Term, the children will learn songs to perform as part of the Year 3/4 Production.

Physical Education

Children will need their P.E. kits (including footwear) in school every day. Over the course of the year, the children will develop their Games, Gymnastics and Dance skills. They will develop the following skills:

- Using running, jumping, throwing and catching in isolation and in combination.
- Playing competitive games, modified where appropriate and applying basic principles suitable for attacking and defending.
- Developing flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through athletics and gymnastics.
- Performing dances using a range of movement patterns.
- Comparing their performances with previous ones and demonstrated improvement to achieve their personal best.

Earrings must be removed for PE lessons, and we would ask that children who wear earrings do not wear them on PE days.

Children will take their PE kits home at the weekend so that they can be washed and then they should be returned the following Monday.

'Love overcomes, love delights, those who love the Sacred Heart rejoice.'
-St Bernadette

'God loves us beyond comprehension and we cannot diminish God's love for us.' -St Peter

'Whatever you do, do it for the love of Jesus.' -St Alphonsa