



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

Autumn 20178

Year 2

Class Newsletter

Class Teacher: Mrs Levack

Dear Parents

Now that we have been back at school for over a week, I am pleased that the children in Year 2 are settling to classroom routines.

This newsletter will explain some of the work they will be doing this term and give you ideas of how best to help your children with their learning. I hope it will be useful.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Year 2 will be following the work outlined in the Curriculum Directory: 'Living and Growing as the People of God'. In the first half term the topic is Old Testament stories and Year 2 will focus particularly on the characters Noah, Jonah, Abraham and David. This will develop their understanding and knowledge of the Bible and how God spoke to His people. They will then find out about special celebrations and feast days in the context of the liturgical year.

PRAYERS

Year 2 will continue to learn some more formal prayers as well as consolidating the prayers learned last year. You will receive a copy of the Class prayer booklet soon, please incorporate some of these prayers in your daily family prayer time. Your child will also have an opportunity to take home the Class Prayer Bag which has carefully selected items to support the children's understanding of religion and prayer in our lives.



Year 2's Class Saint this year is Saint Christopher. We have learnt a little bit about Saint Christopher, as the Patron Saint of travellers and have likened our time together in Year 2 as a journey, with bumps, twists,

turns and uphill climbs!

It would be most helpful for all the children if they are familiar with seeing Father Craig celebrating Mass in the church. This can be achieved easily by regular attendance at Sunday Mass as a family.

HOMEWORK

Your child will be given homework which will help to reinforce and practice skills as well as finding out about new topics.

Homework will be given out each **Tuesday** and must be returned the following **Monday morning**. I hope that this will enable families to develop and manage homework routines to fit in with family life and activities. It will be best to plan to complete work in several sessions rather than all at once. Little and often is most effective when learning spellings or reinforcing skills.

All homework must be completed neatly in pencil.

Please encourage your child to do their best work and ensure that they present their work well with the correct letter and number formation. Please stick any loose homework sheets that are given, into their homework book. Do also refer to the letter inside the front of your child's homework book.

READING

Reading is a most important aspect of homework and aids children's development in many other basic skills including spelling and writing. It is so important to nurture a love of reading early on. Your child will be provided with reading scheme books as well as class library and school library books.



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A variety of books, in addition to the reading scheme books, by different authors and non fiction books will help to develop preferences.

Year 2 children are all expected to read to an adult every night . **Please ensure the reading diary is signed showing the pages read or indicating that you have discussed the story.**

Do encourage reading with expression especially when speech marks and exclamation marks are used. As well as listening to your child read, you could discuss the story and talk about the parts you have both enjoyed.

LITERACY

Year 2 will follow the *Talk 4 Writing* approach to written work this year. It involves a three week period of spoken, illustrated and written work to culminate in an independent piece of writing . This method was introduced last year in school and has proven to be most enjoyable and successful in producing quality independent work.



SPELLING

Your child will be given spellings to learn regularly. Please encourage your child to learn a few spellings each night. The Look Cover Say Write method is a good way of getting your child to practise spellings in a structured way. Full instructions will be given with homework tasks.

It is helpful to break the list down i.e. 2 or 3 spellings per night to learn the words. Try to ensure that the meanings of words given to learn are understood in context.

MATHEMATICS

Year 2 will continue to develop a good understanding of number through counting, exploring the properties of numbers and calculations strategies.

Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and later 3s and 4s (forwards and backwards) will be a frequent activity in class and there will be a particular

focus on counting in 10s from any number to help with addition work. Homework tasks will reflect the work completed in class.

Please help your child to recall

common 2D and 3D shapes.



Practising measuring small



objects using centimetres, remembering to start at 0 on the ruler, will help to reinforce the concept of length, telling the time and counting money are all essential skills and can easily be incorporated in daily conversation and activity. Year 2's Inspire workshop about Maths will be held on **Tuesday 23rd October**. Details to follow.

SCIENCE/BIOLOGY

The topic for this term will be Growth and of humans and animals. Year 2 will focus on the basic requirements of living things. Talking about nature and lifecycles, including naming common plants, birds and animals would be beneficial.



CREATIVE CURRICULUM

The first whole school topic to be covered will be Journeys. Year 2 will be learning more about the roads around our school. Skills and knowledge will be developed through practical and written activities.



Please refer to the school newsletters which are sent out on a monthly basis and the school website which is updated regularly so you are fully informed of upcoming events.

If you have anything you would like to discuss regarding your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Levack