



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

Spring 2018

Year 2 Class Newsletter

Class Teacher: Mrs Workman

Dear Parents

Happy New Year !

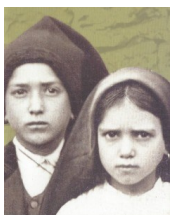
The children have now settled into their second term of Year 2 after the Christmas holidays. This is a very important term for Year 2 and this letter outlines some of the themes they will be covering this term so that you will be able to support your child's learning.

Homework will continue to be given out on **Fridays** and handed in on **Thursdays**. Please continue to support your child with their homework and ensure that it is of a good standard and ready to be handed in on Thursday mornings.



Religious Education

During this term Year 2 will be following work outlined in the Curriculum Strategy for Religious Education : 'Learning and Growing as the People of God'. The children will develop their understanding of Jesus through the study of a selection of 'Parables and Miracles'. They will also learn more about Lent, as a special time for forgiveness before the special celebration of Easter.



20th February is the Feast day of Year 2's class Saints– Saint Jacinta and Saint Francisco. As this date falls during the half term holiday, there will be a non-uniform day for Year 2 pupils on **Thursday 15th February** to celebrate this special feast.

English :Phonics and Spelling: Your child will continue to receive weekly spellings and will be tested on these regularly to check that they can apply all spelling patterns when writing. Please encourage the learning of spellings throughout the week and talk about the spelling patterns they are learning.

Reading: Year 2 will be focussing on comprehension

skills including inference and deduction (reading between the lines and finding an answer which is not explicit within the text). There will be a high focus on the children's understanding of a range of texts. Fluency and expression are key skills which will continue to be monitored when the children are reading.

Your child will bring a reading book home each evening from Monday to Thursday with specific pages to read that evening. Please ensure that only the given pages are read each evening so that the children stay together as a group. Supplementary library books can be read as additional reading for pleasure.



Encouraging your child to talk about the book and asking and answering questions about the content are so important for developing their general understanding. Please encourage your child to verbally answer and explain their ideas in detailed sentences.

Sometimes it may seem that your child is only expected to read a few pages when they are capable of more– this is because often, they are reading specifically for comprehension rather than reading stamina. It is most important that children continue to build up their concentration and stamina by reading at length a few times a week from a range of texts. Story books from home or the library are ideal for this and sharing the reading with your child is also a great way of fostering a love of reading.



Free Choice Friday-Every Friday your child will be asked to choose their own book to take home to widen their experience and choice of reading material.

Writing: Handwriting is very important and over this half term we will look closely at correct letter formation, particularly starting letters in the right place and forming flicks. Your child will have homework tasks to reinforce good practice.

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Traditional Tales, Poetry and Information texts will be some of the themes covered in writing tasks over the term. Your child will learn some of the common features of these genres and learn how to use their writing skills to develop an understanding of these styles. Basic sentence punctuation is now expected from Year 2, as is a high standard of presentation.

Maths

This term Year 2 will be reinforcing the calculation strategies for addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, finding fractions of numbers and calculating missing numbers. All these calculation strategies will be sent home with examples so that you will be able to assist your child with the specific strategies taught in school. Homework tasks will support this learning.

There will also be a big emphasis on reasoning and problem solving. Your child will be expected to use 'trial and improvement' to solve problems systematically. Again, homework tasks will reflect this approach.



They will continue to work on topics such as:

Measures—estimating, comparing and measuring mass and capacities, choosing and using standard units (m, cm, kg, litre).

Time: Using units of time (seconds, minutes, hours, days) and knowing the relationships between them; reading the time to the quarter hour.

Shape, position and direction: Knowing the properties of common 2D and 3D shapes, understanding clockwise, rotation and right angles.

Fractions: Finding fractions of shapes and quantities and reading fraction notation.

Science

Topics for this term include:

Humans and Other Animals: This includes learning about animal life cycles as well as how food, exercise and hygiene are important for health.



Plants: Growing plants and finding out what plants

need to survive. Plenty of talking and reading always helps to build knowledge and develop enquiring minds. Please help your child with the relevant vocabulary.

Computing

In ICT the children will have the opportunity to learn how to navigate websites, find information and make notes. They will also continue their work on Coding.



My Maths and Education City will to be used as a homework supplement.



Please encourage your child to regularly check the school website for updated information, particularly the photographs of events in the school. Our website is updated regularly and is a great way of learning more about the events that happen in school.

Creative Curriculum

During this half term the whole school topic is LEADERS. Year 2's main focus is **History**. They will be learning about leaders in history and the qualities of good leaders. In particular, they will learn about the lives of three leaders: Edith Cavell, Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.



There will be a project homework task connected with this topic to complete before half term.

I hope these suggestions will be useful to you. Your co-operation and support is, as always, most appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries, and I look forward to meeting with you at Parents' Evening in March.

Kind regards

Mrs Workman