



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

Autumn 2017

Class Newsletter

Year 5

Class Teacher: Mr T Smith

Dear Parents

I hope you had a wonderfully exciting summer and a refreshing break with your families. As the children start to settle in their new class, I look forward to your support for the class routines in what is another important year. I feel most privileged to be working with your child this year as their new teacher. Hopefully the children will take on their new roles in the Upper Juniors with pride.

Attendance and Punctuality are vitally important as



pupils often have responsibilities before the 8.55 am bell each morning. If work is missed it is not always possible to cover it again

during the year. For these reasons, please ensure your child has excellent attendance and punctuality at all times.

Religious Education



Year 5 will follow the Diocesan Curriculum Directory which includes units for this term on Creation, Miracles, The Sacrament of the Sick and Advent. The children will be asked to volunteer to read at the 11.00 am

Mass on Sunday at Our Lady of Fatima Church. This is an excellent way for the children to serve their community and develop their faith. Our Parish Priest Father Craig , welcomes all children and their families each weekend.

Class Prayer Bags will be sent home again this term.

They have new activities for you to experience together as a family. Please take some time to share them with your child.



Year 5's Class Saint this year will be **St Teresa of Calcutta.**

English



Reading: It is so important for all areas of the curriculum. There is an extensive selection of books available in school and

each child takes responsibility for choosing a free reading book to enjoy at their leisure. Group reading continues regularly both for homework and in class. Please encourage it at any opportunity. Your child is expected to read for **at least 15 minutes** at home each day. It is most beneficial progress-wise if books are read aloud to an adult. Please sign their reading record daily. The children will also be able to choose a book from the school library regularly. We are experiencing high losses in the library due to unreturned books. Please remind your child to return books on time.

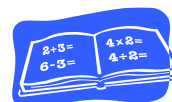
Writing: Genres for the term will include:

historical stories, stories with flashbacks, dialogue poems chronological reports, significant authors and free form poems.



Spelling and handwriting:

Presentation of all written work is very important so please ensure that your child completes written homework tasks to the best of his / her ability and presents it appropriately.



Maths Each child must know by heart their times tables up to 12 X 12 and addition bonds to 100. Please keep practising these in

Order to keep mental recall sharp. Written calculation methods will be re-visited throughout the term. Problem solving and reasoning will ensure that calculation skills are applied. Topics this term include: place value, ordering numbers, rounding, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals and percentages. Historically, fractions have always proved problematic as the expectations in Year 5 have changed—any additional practice in this area will be most beneficial.

Science: Topics for this term include: 'Animals, including Humans' and 'Living Things and their Habitats'. Occasionally Science homework will be set, some of which will be written and some will ask for simple investigations to be set up at home which require on-going observations. We do ask you to support your child with these. Emphasis will be placed on using and applying scientific knowledge.



Creative Curriculum

The School theme this half term is : Community. Year 5 will cover the following topics:

- Anglo Saxons and Viking Settlers– History/ Geography focus
- Christmas cottages – Design and Technology focus

Year 5 have already started preparing to take part in the Hagley Pyramid Music Concert on **Thursday 15th February 2017**, at Birmingham Town Hall. More details will follow after Christmas.

Computing and ICT

Year 5 has regular access to the ICT suite where they will continue developing word processing skills along with using the internet to search large databases. The children will learn to interpret and communicate information in a variety of ways . They will also learn to

design their own website which is a fun, engaging educational activity developing skills which are important in the modern world. Please ensure that your child uses the internet safely at home, following e-safety guidelines.

P.E. Please ensure your child has the correct school PE kit — navy shorts, white T-shirt and pumps. For outdoor PE a plain tracksuit and/or OLOF hoodie and trainers can be worn.



Homework: will be given on a Monday, to be returned by Thursday. Please read through what is expected so that you can support your child with homework tasks. Homework rules are printed in the front of this book. Please encourage a conscientious approach at all times and a sense of pride in all written work.

Home time arrangements:

Children in Year 5 are dismissed at 3.30 p.m. by the class teacher. Those with siblings in the KS1 can walk around to meet their parents in the Infant playground. The rest of the class are dismissed to their parents on the Junior playground. If there are any changes to this routine please let me know **in writing** and keep the office staff updated of any changes, so that they can direct your message to me in class.

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support during this year. I look forward to meeting you at Parents' Evening in October and at Year 5's Inspire Workshop on 21st November 2107. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any aspect of 'school life'.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Smith

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