



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

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Head Teacher: Mrs Wendy D'Arcy

SENT BY EMAIL

Thursday 7th September 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back to School and Year 2! We hope you had a lovely Summer Holiday and that the children are well rested and ready for an exciting Autumn term.

This term's topic is going to be "London's Burning" and we have lots of exciting learning experiences planned around this History theme. We have already been looking at the way that the houses were made. Please see the topic web for further information about our curriculum this term.

In Science we will be covering Materials and their properties - looking at houses then and now and what they are made of as well as some changing states.

PE

PE will be on a Monday so they will need to have the appropriate named kit in school on that Day. The children are required to wear, blue PE shorts, a PE top in their house colours and suitable footwear. When the girls are wearing tights they will also need to bring in socks to change into. If the children have lace up shoes - they must be able to tie them themselves! As the weather gets colder, the children will be outside - whatever the weather. So please ensure that your child has a tracksuit as the weather gets colder.

Reading

Your child will continue to bring home several reading books. Some children will also bring home flashcards. Please try to hear your child read as often as you possibly can- the more they practise, the better they get! They can't read too much at this stage! Could you please also support your child to ensure that they have these in school daily as they begin each day with guided reading. This year ***the children are responsible for changing their own books***. As soon as they have finished them they can change them at the start of any day when they come into school.

Reading Reward

New for September 2017! We are introducing a reading reward scheme. Children will no longer be awarded Privilege points for their reading efforts at home as we have designed a scheme specifically for reading! In order for the children to collect reading points they need to read at home five times a week on five different days to collect 1 point. As you read with the children please number the reads as you go - it makes it much quicker for us to check. When a child has read 5 times, they need to tell a member of staff that they have achieved this and we will initial their reading record to show that the point has been rewarded. The awards will be presented in assembly.

There will be a card per stage being worked on.

25 points - Certificate with book mark.



50 points - bronze book worm badge



75 points - silver book worm badge



100 points - gold book worm badge



150 points - Reading Superstar - achiever cup badge.



Homework

The children will be set homework activities in a pink homework book. Some of the children will be set a phonics based homework. Others will be set either a literacy or numeracy task relating to the work that we have been doing in class.

Homework will be set on a Friday and is to be handed in on a Wednesday to be marked. We will remind the children to hand in their books on a Wednesday but expect them to do this themselves. If books are handed in late we cannot guarantee that they will be marked. The children will also have spellings, these are sent home on a Friday and spelling test will be on the following Thursday. Homework will begin on Friday 15th September 2015.

Volunteer helpers

Thank you to all of the parents who have already volunteered to help with reading first thing in the morning. We are still looking for more. If you are free from 8.40-9.10am and would like to hear a group of lovely children read - please let us know, we still need adults for every day of the week.

Equally if anyone who finds themselves free between 1:30 and 3:00pm any day Tuesday to Friday your help would be most welcome. The job list in schools is endless!

If you have any knowledge/experience that you are able share with year 2 please let me know, a different face always captures the children's attention!

Pupil Post

All communication between school and home should be sent into the classroom with your child. They are responsible for putting it into the box in the classroom. This will be sent to the office with the register at 9.15am where it will be dealt with. This saves unnecessary queueing in the office first thing in the morning.

Staffing

Mrs Mann will be teaching year 2 on a Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Howells will be teaching for the remainder of the week. Mrs Howells does not work on a Monday and Tuesday is SLT time, which enables her to support the continued improvement of our school. The Year 2 teachers and children are very lucky to have Ms Busby, who is one of our HLTAs, supporting in the classroom from Monday - Friday.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to one of us. Whilst we are not available for conversations in the morning, we are always in the playground at 3.15pm. If you do have any information that cannot wait until the evening then please drop into the office or give them a quick call and they will pass your message on.

Many thanks for your support, we're looking forward to a busy, but fun term 😊

Clare Howells and Anna Mann

(Class Teachers)