



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Diocese of Clifton

Inspiring everyone to REACH through
Faith, Hope, Love

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Acting Head Teacher: Mrs Clare Howells

Friday 10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A big welcome back to St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School! We hope you have had a lovely summer and enjoyed spending time with your family. We would like to take this opportunity to say how proud we are of all the children. They have settled into Year 1 beautifully and have taken all the changes in their stride! Miss McCarthy has enjoyed her first week of teaching from home and Miss Mason has enjoyed getting to know all of the children.

Throughout the year, we will keep you updated on our topic themes and your child's learning. Our first topic for the year will be 'Planet Earth'. In literacy the children will be learning the story 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see?' and they will be focusing on Geography and Science during their topic work. Please see our 'Topic Web', detailing the learning areas that we will cover this term.

PE will continue to be on a Friday this year. Please make sure your child arrives in their school PE kit on a Friday so that they can make the most of their PE time. Items of clothing should be clearly named at **all** times - even socks! Items of clothing which are not named and that the children cannot identify will go straight into the lost property.

Similarly, to last year, the children will be given Literacy or Numeracy based homework via TEAMS along with spellings in a green book. Homework will be set on a Friday and will be due in on a Wednesday so that it can be marked. Please note that homework that is not handed in on this day *may not* be marked. Spellings will be set based on the sounds or rules learnt throughout the week. These will not be unfamiliar/new words and will be practised within their daily Phonics session. It is expected that your child practises these in preparation for a spelling test on a Thursday which will be monitored throughout the year. Please **do not** practise these spellings in your child's green spelling book but on a separate piece of paper. Any spellings they get wrong in their spelling test will be added to their next spellings list to learn again and will be tested the following week.

At St Joseph's we really value the importance of daily reading at home. Rewarding those children who read 5 times per week with a reading point will continue throughout Year 1 and will be awarded on your child's Guided Reading day. Your child's reading books will be changed weekly, on the day that is marked in their reading diaries. We *will not* be awarding reading points for books read over the summer as we would usually collect the books in but due to isolation at the end of term we were unable to do this.

Finally, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. We look forward to spending this half term as your child's Class Teachers!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Katie McCarthy & Miss Kate Mason

