



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 7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

A big welcome back to the Spring term! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas break and managed to have a rest from the busy Autumn term. I hope you have had chance to have a look at the Nativity photos on our school website. I'm sure you will agree, the children were fabulous!

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Year 2 parents and carers for your continued support so far. The children are engaging well with the homework set on TEAMS and are being supported with reading at home every week. In Year 2, the children are expected to change their books independently. This is because they will not always need a whole week to read a story and we want to give the children the opportunity to change their books as soon as they have read them. Whilst the children are becoming more independent, we do remind the children to change their books on their Guided Reading day (just in case). If your child has not changed them when expected, please do not hesitate in communicating this with me either via the SLT email or on the playground after school.

Furthermore, I have attached our topic web for this term. You will see that the children will have a range of learning experiences this term, from 'The Minpins' to learning all about Norman Castles in History. The children will start reading 'The Minpins' during DEAR time. If you have a copy of this, please do bring it in so that the children can follow along during this time. We have lots of exciting learning opportunities to look forward to this term - it will be very busy!

PE will continue to be on a Friday this term. Please make sure your child arrives in their school PE kit on a Friday and that children are dressed appropriately for the weather. The children will be doing PE outside - even when it is wet. Outdoor learning has also been planned this term and due to its cross-curricular intent, it could be on any day of the week. This means that all children will be expected to have wellies in school every day as all children are expected to take part. Please support us in clearly labelling your child's clothing. Items of clothing which are not named and that the children cannot identify will go straight into the spare clothes tubs (located in EYFS).

Throughout the Autumn Term, the children were given a Literacy or Numeracy based homework along with spellings. As expected, this will continue throughout the Spring Term. Spellings that are set for homework are all based on the sounds or rules learnt throughout the week and so should not be unfamiliar or new to the children. They are however, the words that the group are finding tricky to master. Therefore, additional practise with these words at home is essential to ensure that they are secured. Those children who are consistently practising at home are then able to apply these spelling patterns in their writing and it is having a positive impact on the progress they are making. I appreciate how busy home life can be but please try to put aside five minutes a day to reinforce your child's spellings with them - it doesn't need to be sitting at the table, they could be practising in the car on the way to school!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask me.

Yours sincerely

N. Guoite

Mrs Natalie Guoite
Year 2 Teacher