



# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

"To live, love and learn in a caring Christian community"

## Class Information Letter January 2021: Pine, Sycamore and Willow classes

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and your families have had a safe and healthy start to the year. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a broad overview of the work that your child/ren will be completing in each area of the curriculum this term. It is hoped that this information will enable you to prepare, support and hold discussions with your child/ren about their schoolwork.

This half term has not started in the way we hoped it would, with many of the pupils having to learn remotely. Nonetheless, as a school we have put a lot of time and effort into preparing for this situation, and we feel this is paying off: we are continuing to teach the content we had intended to, ensuring those working at home are still challenged, engaged and learning as they would ordinarily have been.

The children in years 5 and 6 had a brief taste of remote learning using the Google software and Seesaw before Christmas. This experience has enabled them work effectively and efficiently from the beginning of our January closure, minimising any loss to learning opportunities. We are incredibly grateful for the support you have given your child/ren with accessing links, meetings and resources to support their learning. Thank you.

Mr Doherty will continue to teach the children remotely until Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January. From Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February, Mr Dove will teach the online sessions and Mr Doherty will take over an UKS2 bubble at school.

We look forward to welcoming all the children back into their new classrooms when it is safe to do so.

### **General Information**

#### **P.E.**

Please ensure that your child has their correct kit in school throughout the week and ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with their name. Pupils should have: white shirt and blue shorts or blue tracksuit, plain trainers, socks, and tape for earrings if these cannot be removed.

### **Homework**

When we are able to reopen to all pupils, many of the homework tasks will continue to be completed online. This is to limit the passage of items between households and school. All children will receive English and maths homework each week. English homework will include a grammar or punctuation activity and weekly spellings. We also expect your child to be reading regularly at home.

Maths homework will usually be based on the objectives covered in class that week. In addition, your child **must** also continue to practise their times tables facts to maintain instant recall.

Further to the above, your child will also be required to carry out research tasks for a variety of class topics in other subjects throughout the term. Submission of these tasks will be on Seesaw, rather than bringing the work into school.

English: homework will be set on a **FRIDAY** and should be submitted on the following **TUESDAY** (for marking and testing on the Friday).

Maths: homework will also be set on a **FRIDAY** and should be submitted on the following **TUESDAY**.

**Year Uniform/Appearance:**

We believe that the children should take pride in the way they present themselves e.g. shirt tucked in and top buttons done up. We *do not* permit hair gel, nail polish or jewellery besides plain studs and a watch and would be grateful for your support in this matter. The children are expected to have clearly labelled indoor and outdoor shoes (please avoid black rubber soles indoors) and labelled PE kit.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Dove

Mrs Brooks

Mr Doherty

(For R.E., please see our attached letter)

<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>English</b></u></p> <p><b>Fiction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading texts from different genres and authors</li><li>• Plan and write short stories</li><li>• Persuasive writing</li><li>• Recounts</li><li>• Journalistic writing</li></ul> <p><b>Non-Fiction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-chronological reports</li><li>• Formal and Impersonal writing.</li></ul> <p><b>Speaking and Listening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use a range of oral techniques to present persuasive arguments</li><li>• Sequence points logically</li><li>• Use different types of questions and words</li><li>• Listen carefully and respond thoughtfully</li></ul> <p><b>Spelling</b></p> <p>We will be following the objectives of the curriculum. Spellings will be uploaded to Spelling Shed every week and should be practised daily.</p> <p><b>Grammar and punctuation</b></p> <p><b>Weekly comprehension/guided reading</b></p> <p><b>Handwriting</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Maths</b></u></p> <p><b>Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Place value, ordering and rounding numbers</li><li>• Number operations (x - / +)</li><li>• Fractions, decimals and percentages</li><li>• Problem solving and algebra</li><li>• Making decisions and checking results using inverse operations</li></ul> <p><b>Shape, Space and Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2D and 3D shapes; reasoning about shapes</li><li>• Calculate area, perimeter and volume</li><li>• Measures, including solving problems</li></ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>P.E.</b></u></p> <p>Using equipment to record and improve performance; indoor athletics and aerobic fitness.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Science</b></u></p> <p><b>Let's get moving</b></p> <p>In this unit, the children will learn about forces and machines. Starting with gravity, they will then study friction forces, including air and water resistance, before investigating how simple machines work.</p> <p><b>We are dinosaur hunters</b></p> <p>In this unit, the children will have a chance to study, research and present information, based on their own questions about dinosaurs. This topic is focused on developing the children's scientific skills.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>D&amp;T</b></u></p> <p><b>Bread</b></p> <p>In this unit, the children will investigate and learn about bread products, finding out how to make different breads. They will then design a new bread product and make bread based on a plan and design.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Art</b></u></p> <p><b>Illusions</b></p> <p>In this unit, the children will manipulate images to create illusions. Perspective and shading will be focused on as the pupils experiment with the impact their images have on the viewer.</p>
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### Computing

#### **We are app planners**

In this unit, the children will be learning about the capabilities of smartphones, thinking of a problem that a smartphone or tablet app could solve, and then pitch the idea for their app.

### History

#### **How did World War Two impact our local area?**

In this unit, the children will research the impact of World War Two on the area in which they live.

### Music

Music lessons will follow the Music Express scheme and topics this term include:

**Life cycles** (focus is on structure in music)

**Keeping healthy** (focus is on the beat in music)

### French

The children will develop language skills including, grammar, listening, speaking writing and reading. The topics covered this term include:

-Parts of the body

-Food