



CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had a lovely Easter holiday and enjoyed the break. Our topics for this term are 'People Who Help Us: Do All Superheroes Wear Capes?' and 'What Happens Next?' We will have a visit from a local police officer, alongside other local trips linked to these subjects. We will also be taking the children for a Teddy Bears' picnic, to which you are all invited! The books we will be studying include *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Oliver's Garden*, and various non-fiction texts. As always, your children's interests will lead the way and inform our short-term planning.

We aim to ensure all children are reading and writing independently and are confident in their knowledge of all phonemes for Phases 2, 3, and 4, including digraphs and trigraphs. Please continue to encourage a love of reading at home by sharing a variety of books. Regular questioning is key to developing their comprehension skills and phonological awareness.

As a reminder, homework, reading books, and **reading records must be returned by Thursday** each week so we can change books and set new homework.

In our **PSHE** lessons, we will be teaching the children how to keep themselves safe. This includes road safety, 'My Body, My Rules,' and learning the 'PANTS' song to understand personal boundaries and rules.

In **Maths**, we are following the Maths Mastery curriculum. This term includes "Shape and Space," where we will look at the properties of shapes and use mathematical language to describe them. We will also be "digging deeper" into numbers up to 10 and gaining a stronger understanding of our counting system up to 20.

Our **Science and Understanding the World** topics will focus on processes and changes in the natural world, including what plants need to grow and learning about our body parts. We will be gardening, planting seeds, and carrying out weekly experiments to make predictions about different scientific concepts.

Handwriting and PE

Please ensure your child is using the tripod grip to secure their pencil. We kindly ask that you practise this daily at home.

PE will take place on Tuesdays. The children will be focusing on Athletics and practising for Sports Day. The date of this will be announced nearer the time. On PE days, children should come to school in their PE kit and remain in it for the day. The kit consists of navy bottoms, a white t-shirt, and black, white, or navy trainers.

Religious Education

For RE, we are starting Branch 5 this half-term: 'To the Ends of the Earth.' We will learn about Pentecost and the Holy Trinity, furthering our understanding of what it means to be part of the Church and God's family. We will continue to learn and practise the 'Our Father' and 'Hail Mary' prayers, alongside our daily school prayers.

In the second half-term, we will cover Branch 6: 'Dialogue and Encounter.' We will learn about being respectful in relationships and offering openness to others as part of God's loving plan. The emphasis is on nurturing listening, kindness, and curiosity, helping children recognise that valuing others reflects Jesus' example of love.

Art and Music

In Art, we will use a variety of mediums to explore art from around the world, including botanical/floral art and portraits of "People Who Help Us."

In Music lessons with Ms. Crealey, Reception children will dive into "Noticing Patterns and Describing the Music." This unit encourages children to become more attentive listeners, identifying patterns and describing their musical experiences. They will engage with rhymes, poems, and songs to express their feelings, which also helps enhance their language skills.

We are already beginning to prepare the children for their transition into Year 1. This will include a special performance for you all to enjoy, reflecting everything they have learned in Reception. We will continue to focus on the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) from the EYFS Statutory Framework (listed below for your information).

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a fantastic term ahead!

Yours sincerely,

Ms Atkins & Miss Payne

The Reception Team