

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM



## ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Part of St Gabriel the Archangel Multi Academy Trust

HILLCREST ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS, DY2 7PW

Principal: Mrs S Chapman B.Ed Hons

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[www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.st-jo-dud.dudley.sch.uk)



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year.

I hope you have had a happy, restful and fun-filled Christmas and New Year! I'm looking forward to this term with the children. They really came a long way last term and very quickly adapted to Year One life. I hope you can see how far they have come, many moving up reading levels rapidly and really being successful in their learning.

Reading this term will consist of the children bringing home two books. One book is their phonics book which, with some guidance they should be able to read. The other book is a reading book to share – you may want to take turns reading or talking about the story with your child.

Please try to spend some time with your child each night looking at a book and practising the sounds in it. The books will be changed once a week and they will be shared with an adult in school. Please bring both books back to school each day.

P.E. will be on Monday and Thursday. Please could you ensure that your child brings their P.E. kit, which consists of black shorts, a white T – shirt and pumps or trainers. As the cold weather is still with us, a reminder that children are allowed to bring in black tracksuit bottoms to wear during PE lessons.

Homework will be given out on a Friday which will be due back in by the following Thursday. English Homework will be given out in books and Maths Homework will be on a sheet.

Children will also have weekly spellings from their phonics groups – please bring spelling books to school every Monday.

As always, if there are any queries about anything, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Sharma and Miss Sibley

### What are we learning about?

This Term our topics are:

**R.E.:** Christmas, Jesus, Teacher and Healer, Forgiveness, Lent, Holy Week and Easter

**English:** Recognising letter sounds. Blending for reading.

Building sentences, basic punctuation.

Cumulative Stories, Recounts and Instructions and an author study

**Maths:** Place Value, Addition and Subtraction. Multiplication and Measure

**Science:** Identifying Animals and Identifying Plants

**ICT:** Data collection and recording

**PE:** Gymnastics and Ball games – controlling the ball with feet.

**Art:** Colour Creations and Flying Kites

**Geography:** Four Seasons

**History:** Castles

### Special days / Dates:

PE – Monday and Thursday

Homework – Given on a Friday returned by the following Thursday

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February Year One assembly at 9:15am

Class Masses– Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Writing parent workshop – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

Brilliant in Britain week– WB 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Class Saint Day – 9<sup>th</sup> February

### The class charity we have chosen to support

RSPCA

<p><u>Values for Autumn Term:</u></p> <p>Curious and Active— before half term</p> <p>Curious: Being curious means wanting to learn more about the world, asking questions, and wondering about God, people, and how things work.</p> <p>Active: Being active means getting involved, helping others, and using your gifts to make a positive difference at school, at home, and in the world.</p> <p>Intentional and Prophetic- after half term</p> <p>Intentional: Being intentional means trying to do the right thing on purpose, making good choices, and thinking about how your actions can show love and kindness.</p> <p>Prophetic: Being prophetic means standing up for what is right, speaking kindly but bravely, and showing God's love by caring for others, especially those who need help.</p>	<p><u>Children as leaders</u></p> <p>In Year One the children have the opportunity to be:</p> <p>Creation Guardians, on the School Council, a Mini Vinnie, part of the School Mission team.</p>
<p><u>Catholic Social Teaching &amp; British Values</u></p> <p>Throughout the curriculum and beyond children learn about the 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching - Working in Solidarity, Care for Creation, Community &amp; Participation, Dignity of Workers, Help for the Poor &amp; Vulnerable, Human Dignity &amp; Solidarity and how they link to British Values – Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Respect &amp; Tolerance.</p>	<p><u>St Joseph's Way – See our website for more details</u></p> <p>At St. Joseph's we develop children's character through the 'St. Joseph's Way' curriculum. In order to build character, we define the behaviours and habits that we expect students to demonstrate. We want to support our pupils to grow into adults who are polite, respectful, grateful and who put others before themselves. We believe that, as pupils practise these behaviours over time, they become habits that positively shape how they feel about themselves and how other people perceive them. As philosopher Will Durant states, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." (1926)</p>