

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



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to school after the Christmas holidays, we hope you all enjoyed it. Thank you for your kind gifts and cards that we received. Your support will be greatly appreciated in ensuring that your child arrives at school on time. This is important so your child has time to participate in morning tasks and settle into school especially as the KS2 National Tests are fast approaching. Your child has been given a home reading book. You can help your child by finding a quiet time to listen to them read for a maximum of about 10 minutes as often as possible. Please also help them to learn their times tables. Your help can make a big difference.

P.E. will be on Monday afternoons and Wednesday afternoons, please could you ensure that your child brings their P.E. kit which is black shorts, a white T – shirt and pumps or trainers.

Homework will be given out once a week on Fridays which will be due back in on Monday/Tuesday.

Our class Saint is Saint Alphonsa (27th September).

As always, if you have any further questions about anything, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Cheema

What are we learning about?

English: Text – Journey to the River Sea

Writing: Character profile, newspaper report, information text, letter, description and a recount.
Grammar: relative clauses, adverbs, commas, semi-colons, colons and building cohesion with paragraphs.
SAT's revision.

Maths: Multiplication, division, geometry, fractions, decimals, percentages, algebra and revision.
SAT's revision.

R.E. Christmas, Prayer, Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

Science:

Evolution and Inheritance – To recognise that living things produce offspring but are not always identical.

Special days / Dates:

Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th January – Parent Workshop (English focus)

Wednesday 14th January – Online Safety Workshop

Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd January – Water workshops throughout the school

Thursday 29th January – Whole school Computing workshops

Wednesday 4th February – Helping Hands Safety Workshop for Year 6

Monday 9th February – Parents' Evening

Thursday 12th February – Whole school Retreat Day (Getting ready for Lent)

Friday 13th February – Whole school Poetry Recital

Half-Term – Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February.

Wednesday 18th March – Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)

WB Monday 23rd February – Brilliant In Britain Week & IO:IO Module 2.

We will learn how plants and animals adapt to their environment.

Seeing Light: To review understanding of light and shadow and to explore how light travels. To investigate how we see things through light entering the eyes. To explore how light can be reflected and change direction. To investigate reflections from a variety of surfaces. To be able to plan and carry out an experiment to investigate how shadows behave. To explore the differences between shadows and reflections and consolidate knowledge of how we see things.

Geography: South America (continued) – We will learn about the location and countries of South America. The children will understand about the weather and climate of the continent. They will learn about the human geography, and about trade and industry.

History: The Industrial Revolution – a study of Britain as the first industrial nation, focusing on changes to society, inventions, living/working conditions (especially child labour), urbanisation, and social reform like the Factory Acts, using historical sources to understand its impact and comparing it to modern life. Key areas include the rise of factories, steam power (Newcomen, Watt), new technologies (spinning jenny, railways), child labour, poor housing, growth of cities and the establishment of police.

Art: Cityscapes – Children will learn about how to use Pop art techniques and layering to create 3D cityscapes and be able to replicate cityscape photos using different mediums. They will explore how to create reflections of cityscapes on water and then finally be able to create their own using any media of choice.

DT: Shelters – Children will investigate a range of shelters. They will explore how to join and combine materials and components and find out how to reinforce structures. They will find suitable textiles for the purpose of making a shelter. Children will consider specific designs to construct a shelter.

Computing: I Network and I App Units

Music: Orchestra

French: Going Shopping & Where In The World Units

Wednesday 25th February – Whole school Retreat Day (Catholic Social Teaching focus)

Tuesday 3rd March – Year 6 Mass

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Friday 6th March – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 to take part in a Parliament Assembly from a visiting speaker

Wednesday 18th March – Year 6 Safe Behaviour Workshop

Monday 23rd March – Lenten Service at 5pm.

Friday 27th March – End of term celebration assembly – 9.15am

Friday 27th March – Year 6's Stations of the Cross Liturgy 2.15pm

The class charity we have chosen to support

Birmingham Children's Hospital



Values for Autumn Term:

Curious and Active – before half term

Curious: Being curious means wanting to learn more about the world, asking questions, and wondering about God, people, and how things work.

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.

Intentional and Prophetic – after half term

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.

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.

Catholic Social Teaching & British Values

Throughout the curriculum and beyond children learn about the 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching – Working in Solidarity, Care for Creation, Community & Participation, Dignity of Workers, Help for the Poor & Vulnerable, Human Dignity & Solidarity and how they link to British Values – Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Respect & Tolerance.

Children as leaders

Mission Team – Alana & Devon

Creation Guardians – Lyla & Alan

Minnie Vinnies – Funmi & Noah

School Council – Hashir & Julia

St Joseph's Way – See our website for more details

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)