

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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Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome to Year 1. We are so excited about the wonderful year ahead and all of the fun, learning and adventures that we have planned. Year 1 is such an exciting time in your child's school journey and we are looking forward to watching them grow in confidence, become independent learners and develop a real love of learning. We hope to make this a year full of happy memories, new experiences and exciting discoveries, while helping to prepare each child for Year 2 and beyond.

There are lots of ways in which you can support your child at home. We encourage you to listen to your child read daily, help them practise their spellings and support them with their weekly homework tasks. Homework will be given out on Fridays and should be returned the following Thursday. English homework will be given out in homework books, while Maths homework will be provided on a worksheet. These small, regular activities make a huge difference to your child's progress and confidence. We really appreciate your continued support with reading and homework. Working together will help your child get the very best from their Year 1 experience. P.E. will be taught on Mondays and Thursdays. Please ensure that your child brings their P.E. kit to school. This should include black shorts, a white t-shirt and pumps or trainers. As the cooler weather will soon be upon us, please remember that children are also allowed to bring black tracksuit bottoms to wear during P.E. lessons. We are always here to help. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and speak to either myself or Miss Sibley. We are very much looking forward to working with you and your children and making Year 1 a happy, exciting and successful year for everyone. We can't wait to see all of the wonderful things that your children will learn, achieve and discover throughout the year.

Kind regards,

Miss Caddick and Miss Sibley

What are we learning about?

R.E.: Creation and covenant and prayers.

English: Fairy stories, traditional tales and rhymes, with a focus on applying phonics skills, blending sounds for reading, segmenting words for spelling, building sentences and using basic punctuation.

Maths: Place value and addition and subtraction to 20.

Science: My Body - identifying and describing common body parts and our senses.

History: Toys past and Present - exploring how toys from the past are different from the toys that we play with today, as well as how they are similar.

Art: Self-Portraits - looking at famous artists' self-portraits and creating our own self-portrait.

Special days / Dates:

18.9.26 - flu vaccinations

W.B. 21.9.26 - Mission, Vocation, Values and Prayer Week (MVVP)

9.10.26 - wear yellow to school for Mental Health Day

13.10.26 - Year 1 class mass

W.B. 19.10.26 - Black History Week

19.10.26 - Parents' Evening

11.11.26 - school photographs

W.B. 16.11.26 - Anti-bullying, Anti-racism and Internet Safety Week

18.11.26 and 19.11.26 - Maths parent workshop

29.11.26 - Advent begins

8.12.26 - Bambinelli Mass

Computing: Computer Skills – basic keyboard skills, algorithms and instructions. PE: How to Keep Our Bodies Healthy – fitness and observing how our bodies respond to exercise.	11.12.26 – Party Day, Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Fair 14.12.26 – Carol Concert 15.12.26 – KSI Christmas Play 18.12.26 – Carols around the tree <u>The class charity we have chosen to support</u> RSPCA
<u>Values for Autumn Term:</u> Compassionate and Loving– before half term. Compassionate: Thinking about one another and showing love and kindness. Loving: Showing love to everyone as Jesus teaches us to. Faith-filled and Hopeful- after half term. Faith-filled: Be guided by faith and all of Jesus’ teachings. Hopeful: Having hope in Jesus and the Trinity and the power they hold.	<u>Children as leaders</u> Mission Team – Ayden and Ife Creation Guardians – Jobe and Tommy Minnie Vinnies – Chinyelugo and Tiyin School Council – Mikaeel and Ellis
<u>Catholic Social Teaching & British Values</u> 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.	<u>St Joseph’s Way – See our website for more details</u> 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)