



*St Gregory's Catholic Primary School*  
*'Walking together in the light of the Lord.'*  
*Autumn 2020 / 2021*  
*Year 2*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 2! I am looking forward to hearing all about your summer holidays and getting to know all of you much better. Here are some of things we will be learning about this term!

In RE we will be studying three themes these include: Domestic Church (when we will focus on beginnings), Baptism and Confirmation (when we will learn about signs and symbols) and Advent and Christmas (when we will discuss how to prepare for Jesus' birth.) The children will also spend a week studying Judaism.



To start our English topic we will be reading 'The Secret Sky Garden' and doing some description and poem writing based on this lovely picture book. Children will be given spellings to learn each week on Friday and are expected to practise these at home ready for a test the following week. The children will continue with the Read, Write Inc. programme for phonics and will be put into practise groups according to the sounds they know. Please still talk to your children about their sounds and help them to blend words at home. Children will begin to learn about joining their letters during handwriting practise in school and should be encouraged at home to explain which letters are allowed to join and which shouldn't be joined. Children should be reading for at least 10 minutes a day at home with an adult and this should be recorded in planners for teachers to check.

In Maths the children will be practising their place value knowledge, they will be doing lots of practical work on partitioning numbers into tens and ones. They will also be learning their



number bonds to 10 and 20 and also challenging themselves to count in 2s, 5s and 10s! Please talk to your children at home about their counting and check IXL for maths tasks that could help with these topics. Each child also has a log in for Numbots and Times Tables Rockstars. Please encourage them to practise this at home.

Our topic for theme lessons this term is, 'Magnificent Monarchs', where the children will be learning all about reigning Kings and Queens throughout History and how their work has impacted how we live life today. We will also be exploring famous Royal portraits and making our own portraits and clay models which will be similar in style.

In Computing the children will be continuing to use Purple Mash to develop their knowledge of writing coded instructions and debugging programmes to discover how computer language is written. They will also be discussing online safety and the importance of keeping their information private online.



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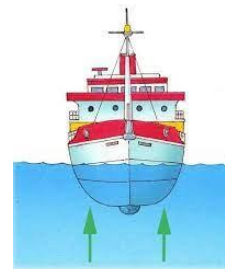
We are delighted to share with you that, each week, the children at St Gregory's from Nursery to Year 6, will all have one lesson of Spanish taught by Mrs Neal-Gonzalez, a fluent Spanish speaker. We are excited to be able to offer this provision to all our pupils this academic year.



The children will be learning to sing and accompany two songs this term, they are called: 'Hands, Feet, Heart' and 'Ho, Ho, Ho.' They will talk about different genres of music and what styles of music they prefer to listen to and why. The children will also discuss which musical instruments they can hear to make up the sounds of different backing tracks. To support at home you could speak to children about the lyrics to the songs they are singing in school or speak to them about the songs you play at home and what instruments they can identify from the sound.

In PE this term, the children's main focus will be on 'fundamental movement skills' such as running, jumping, coordination, agility, balance and throwing. The children will develop their motor skills through this practice. Please look out for all the extra-curricular opportunities we offer too.

This term in Science, the children will be learning about everyday materials and how to bend and shape different materials. The children will be identifying the properties of materials and comparing different materials for how hard, soft or bendable they are. The children will also be investigating whether materials are durable or waterproof. They will be conducting two engaging experiments to aid them with their scientific enquiry called, 'Can you make a paper bridge?' and 'Why do boats float?'



Please remember to check your child's Home-School Link Book each day and sign it weekly. Children should bring it into school every day without fail. Please help them with this and we will get them into a routine and prepared for Year 2.

I look forward to a great term with you all! Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs. Keeling