

**Mission Statement Motto:** *Building relationships with God and each other, working hard in faith and hope to give our best in all things*

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

## St Jude Autumn Term Curriculum Letter

This term, we will be learning about **Forceful Pharaohs**. This letter will give you some key information about what we will be learning this term and how you can support this learning at home. Please see below :

Subject	Content	Supporting your child home
<b>Religious Education</b>	<p>The children will study three topics this term – Homes, Promises and Visitors. In our Homes topic children explore how God is present in every home. This is expressed in the love that binds the family together within the home through good times and bad times.</p> <p>In our Promises topic children learn that the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation are the call to a new way of life. At Baptism and Confirmation people are welcomed and initiated into the Christian Church and supported in responding to God's call.</p> <p>In our Gifts topic children learn that this topic emphasises the coming of God, in the person of Jesus, 2,000 years ago at Bethlehem. He was not a passing visitor, but One who comes to dwell among us, the Word made flesh. The joyful expectation of Advent, is an encouragement to take steps to recognise the coming of God into the world today, and to believe that in the future this same God will come again in glory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to read, discuss and spend quality time with each other and explain to your child how each activity is an expression of love.</li> <li>This year the children will have their First Communion. Discuss what this means as a promise to God and what that promise means.</li> <li>Read and discuss the Christmas story and what Christ coming to Earth means for those who believe on Him and what His return might be like when He comes for His children. <b>Some scriptures: (Genesis 1, St Matthew 1&amp;2; 25: 31 – 46, St John 1:1-18, 2 Peter 3: 10-14, Jude 1: 14-15)</b> (Please also see attached 'Come and See' Newsletter).</li> </ul>
<b>English</b>	<p>In reading this term, we will be focussing on the learning behaviours for reading through the use of VIPERS and will be practising using our reading skills. We will continue to use whole class text approach to develop our writing skills. This term we will look at how to write newspaper reports, mystery stories and poems. Our texts will be: 'Leon and the Place Between' by Angela McAllister, Cinderella of the Nile by Beverley Naidoo, Jim: A Cautionary Tale by Hilaire Belloc &amp; Mini Grey and The BFG by Roald Dahl as our class texts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to your child read their home reading book at least 3 times a week and have discussions about the book with them, asking some of the VIPERS questions that was sent home with your child.</li> <li>Encourage your child to read different fiction texts for pleasure.</li> <li>Encourage your child to read other books by the same authors that we study in class.</li> </ul>



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<b>Maths</b>	This term we will be focusing on: Place value, where pupils will explore the relative size of whole numbers building on concepts learnt in year 2, as well as counting in Ones, Tens and Hundreds where pupils will explore changes in numbers when counting on and backwards from any given number. We will also focus on mental fluency where children will have many opportunities to cultivate their mental fluency in addition and subtraction, before moving onto formal writing methods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our class Beautiful Fluncy Facts (BFFs) four Autumn 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• White Rose One Minute App</li> <li>• Timetable Rock Star</li> <li>• Numberblocks</li> <li>• Discuss what is the same and what is different about numbers. For example, what is the same and what is different between 4567 and 7654</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/place-value">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/place-value</a></li> </ul>
<b>Science</b>	Our first topic this term is Rocks. We will explore different types of rocks and soils based on their appearance, their simple physical properties and get the chance to look at them very closely. We will also look into fossils and observe how they are formed. Next half term we will be learning about Light. We will explore what happens when light reflects off a mirror or other reflective surfaces. We will also think about why it is important to protect our eyes from bright lights, look for, and measure, shadows, and find out how they are formed and what might cause the shadows to change. For both topics, we will use our new knowledge to ask scientific questions and make predictions before conducting investigations which will allow us to gather and record results, measure accurately and draw conclusions using simple scientific language and diagrams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go on a rock hunt. Discuss the different types of rocks you have found.</li> <li>• Look up and draw different fossils.</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9bbkqt">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9bbkqt</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z3jmwmb">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z3jmwmb</a></li> </ul>
<b>History</b>	This half term we will be focussing on the topic of <b>Forceful Pharaohs</b> . We will investigate Ancient Egypt and its civilization such as their earliest civilisations – Sumer, the Indus Valley and the Shang dynasty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and write some paragraphs about Tutankhamen.</li> <li>• Draw a picture of the pharaoh Tutankhamen beside your written work.</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/games/discover-ancient-egypt/discover-ancient-egypt/egyptian-tomb-adventure/">https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/games/discover-ancient-egypt/discover-ancient-egypt/egyptian-tomb-adventure/</a></li> </ul>
<b>Geography</b>	Next half term we will learn about Water with a focus The River Nile. We will develop our physical geographical knowledge by describing and understand the water cycle and use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a map to locate the River Nile.</li> <li>• Research some facts about The River Nile.</li> <li>• Invest in some books about the River Nile.</li> <li>• <a href="https://egypt.mrdonn.org/games.html">https://egypt.mrdonn.org/games.html</a></li> </ul>
<b>Art</b>	This half term we will be developing our texture and pattern skills. We develop a range of mark-making techniques, making and printing with textured stamps for printing, drawing 'flip' patterns and recreating a famous geometric pattern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide your child with a range of materials such as pencil, charcoal, paint, clay and allow them to experiment with making different patterns.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to make their own patterns at home using any printing stamps they have at home.</li> </ul>
<b>Design and Technology</b>	Next half term we will be Learn and apply two new sewing techniques – cross-stitch and appliqué. Children will utilise these new skills to design and make a cushion or Egyptian collar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach your child how to thread a needle using the video below: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHwggj5EN_Q&amp;t=72s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHwggj5EN_Q&amp;t=72s</a></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practicing sewing with your child using different sewing techniques such as cross-stitch and appliqué.</li> </ul>
<b>Music</b>	You child will have the opportunity to learn the recorder. We will be learning basic instrumental skills by playing tunes in varying styles, Using scores/notation as well as learning various song for our Christmas Nativity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qy44RtvrSak">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qy44RtvrSak</a></li> </ul>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<p>This half term the children will develop and improve their breathing, stability and learn yoga poses in indoor PE.</p> <p>In outdoor PE, we will be learning about Tag Rugby. The children will develop an understanding of tagging rules, continue to develop their throwing, catching and running with the ball skills, use correct vocabulary, dodge a defender and move into space when running towards the goal, develop their defending skills and use them in a game situation and apply the rules and skills they have learnt and play in a tag rugby tournament.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play throwing and catching ball games.</li> <li>Try to complete 10 minutes of physical activity at home each day, maybe they could ride to the park with you!</li> </ul>
<b>PSHE</b>	Using the resources from Ten Ten Resources, we will learn that through prayer, the Sacraments, our friendships and relationships with others, we can have a foretaste of heaven. Additionally, we will identify more complex relationships in our lives, including family, friends and other people, and explore how to relate to people within these different relationships. We will also discuss what it means to be a good friend and learn some strategies to use when relationships become difficult. Finally, we will explore how to recognise bullying and abuse (including physical bullying and emotional bullying online). Children will take part in discussions and roleplay activities to consider how bullying affects people, and what strategies can be employed to resist pressure and practise resilience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-1/ltf-p_pp_lks2_1-1_religious-understanding/#s2">https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-1/ltf-p_pp_lks2_1-1_religious-understanding/#s2</a></li> <li><a href="https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-2/ltf-p_pp_lks2_2-2_personal-relationships/#s1">https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-2/ltf-p_pp_lks2_2-2_personal-relationships/#s1</a></li> <li><a href="https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-2/ltf-p_pp_lks2_2-2_personal-relationships/#s2">https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/lks2/u-2/ltf-p_pp_lks2_2-2_personal-relationships/#s2</a></li> </ul>
<b>French</b>	This term, the children will study the topics 'Bonjour' (basic phrases), 'En classe' (classroom objects), 'Encore!' (describing people). They will learn how to engage in conversations, ask and answer questions and seek clarification or help others to move their learning forward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage your child to say good morning, hello etc in French as well as sharing new words and phrases they've learnt in French after their lesson on Mondays every other week.</li> </ul>
<b>Computing</b>	We will be studying Networks, the Internet Programming Scratch and Online Safety. Children will understand how to make a character move and how to change the screen and add special effects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage your child to discuss what networks are and how they work after our computing lessons on Tuesdays. Encourage your child to share their knowledge and understand how to keep themselves safe online.</li> </ul>

Summer uniform will continue to be worn for the remainder of this half term, until half term when children should return in their winter uniform. We encourage all of the children to wear their uniform with pride. We would also like to remind you again that all items of uniform must be labelled with your child's name. This should avoid you having to



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replace lost items at great cost! All children must wear black shoes to school and not trainers. Hair accessories should be in the colours of our school uniform: blue, white or yellow.

I look forward to working in partnership with you this term. For other dates, please refer to the School Newsletter. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to let me know. My email is [Year3@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk](mailto:Year3@holycrossprimary.thurrock.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely

**Mrs K Dhannie**  
**St Jude's Class Teacher**

