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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Dear Parents/Carers

St. Teresa of Calcutta Autumn Term Curriculum Letter

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 at home
Religious Education	This term the children will study 2 topics from the *RED Curriculum*. These topics are: **Branch 1 – Creation and Covenant** This topic explores the second story of Creation and the Original Sin. **Branch 2 - Prophecy and Promise** This topic looks at roles of woman in the bible.	Please ensure that your child knows how to reverently bless themselves and understand the importance of stillness during prayer time. Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love. Write underneath it "We show God's love to one another." Include those who have died. Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration. Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree. Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.
English	In reading this term the class will study two main texts. The first is a beautiful book, *Skellig.* The second book is *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo, a book about two brothers growing up and going off to fight in the First World War. Children's writing this term will be based around *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan and *Windrush Child* by Benjamin Zephaniah and will cover a range including: • narrative writing • persuasive pitch • discussion • newspaper article	Please ensure your child is reading a range of text types/genres at home and that the books they choose are both enjoyable and challenging. They should read independently and to other people; this is important to practice reading with expression and intonation. Please also talk to them about their reading, for example: discuss the plot, characters, setting, genre etc (see bookmark for questions you can ask, all children should have one).

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Maths	In Maths this term the children will be learning how to read, write, compare, order and round numbers up to 10,000,000. They will also use written methods for the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) with numbers of up to four digits. They will also learn about the place value of decimals and multiplying and dividing numbers, including decimals, by 10 and its multiples (100, 1000, etc). They will learn about common factors and multiples; prime numbers up to 100; square and cube numbers; the order of operations and mental strategies for calculation. They will also learn about fractions: simplifying them, comparing and ordering, adding and subtracting, multiplying and dividing them. The final unit of this term's Maths will be about geometry: plotting coordinates on four quadrant grids, plotting reflections and translations of shapes on grids and reasoning about shapes with coordinates.	There are a few things that you could do to support your children in Maths: 1. Ensuring that they practice their KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts) for this term regularly – these will soon be sent home. 2. Encouraging your child to develop as an independent learner by asking them what they need to practice and improve on. For example, if they know that they struggle to add fractions correctly. 3. As we are studying the Ancient Greeks in History, you might encourage them to learn (online, possibly) about the work of Pythagoras or Archimedes.
Science	The class will complete two areas of study in Science this term, *Electricity* and *Light.* They will experiment with building electrical circuits of different types and they will use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram. They will learn about how light travels and is reflected and refracted, and how shadows are formed.	To promote your child's interest in Science I would strongly recommend watching some of the Royal Institution's *Christmas Lectures* by following this link: https://www.rigb.org/explore-science/browse?type=22 The Science Museum website is also full of wonderful material. This link takes you to the homepage: https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/
History	Ancient Benin – a study of Benin life and achievements and their influence on the wider African community.	Please take a look at this website to help to develop your child's understanding in History - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39 Look at ancient Greek websites.
Geography	Place knowledge- understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom and a region in a European country	Please take a look at this website to help to develop your child's understanding in Geography - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39 Google maps -look at the coastline and different tourist attraction.
Art	Photography: Exploring photography as a medium for expressing ideas, pupils investigate scale and composition, colour and techniques for adapting finished images. They use digital media to design and create photographic imagery for a specific design brief	I would just encourage children to draw at home, for pleasure, making sure they have access to drawing materials. Possibly encouraging them to draw from observation, something as ordinary as a shoe, can produce wonderful results. It has also got to be said that there are many very-well-paid jobs that rely upon artistic skills, architecture being but one example.
Design and Technology	Navigating our World – children will find out about the different mechanisms used	Children would benefit from looking at the following links:

	to get the best performance, exploring how levers, pulleys, gears and hydraulics are used to steer a boat.	Boat Facts for Kids (kiddle.co) Boats | Canal & River Trust (canalrivertrust.org.uk)
Music	The class will study a unit about pop and Motown music called: *What makes us happy?* The class will continue to learn how to play the Ukulele	Some good discussion points to discuss music with your child: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zk86qfr/articles/z8x796f
Physical Education	The children will have swimming lessons for the next few weeks. They will also have lessons focussing on tennis, hockey and yoga.	Please encourage your children to engage in some form of physical activity at home every day. Please ensure your child bring in their swimming kit on a Tuesday and comes to school in a PE kit on a Friday.
PSHE	Children will follow the TEN:TEN scheme with lessons focussing on: • Calming the Storm • Gifts and Talents • Peculiar Feelings • Emotional Changes • First Aid – Basic Life Support • Session 5: First Aid – Basic Life Support • Current Trends – County Lines	Encourage your child to talk to you about what they have been learning.
French	In French, the class will study two units this term; Les vetements (all about clothing likes and dislikes) and Le week-end (which I hope does not need translation but is all about leisure activities).	Please encourage your child to share anything new they have learned in French with you.

Please ensure your child has their jumper, a coat/jacket and their water bottle in school every day.
Please check that all items of your child's uniform is labelled with their name and that they come to school dressed in accordance to our uniform policy. This includes black school shoes (no trainers) and hair accessories in school colours (blue, white or yellow).

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me on Class Dojo.

If you need an appointment with myself to discuss something, please contact the office and we can arrange a time that suits us both.

I look forward to working in partnership with you this term.

Yours sincerely

Miss F Renoldi
Class Teacher