

# St Fidelis Catholic Primary School

with Nursery Unit



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## Year 2 Swallows

January 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! As we start the Spring academic term, we thought it would be useful to revisit some daily routines and expectations that are in place in Year 2. Although we try to keep school as structured and consistent as possible, there will be occasions when the timings of some aspects detailed below may change, for reasons that are beyond the control of the teachers.

Swallows' class teachers is Mrs Whalley. Over the course of the year, the children will also be taught by Mrs Sargent, Miss Bull (PE), Mr Robinson (Music) and Mrs Thornton-Hayes (Liturgical Dance).

### Independent Learners

In Year 2, children are expected to look after their book bags and belongings. This includes:

- Changing reading books when finished.
- Handing in and taking home dinner money, letters and work.
- Water may be brought from home - bottles should be clear and labelled and can be refilled by the children during breaks.
- No jewellery, earrings, studs or nail polish is worn. Please check that these are removed before school.
- Keeping track of bags, clothing and belongings throughout the day, especially PE kits and jumpers.

Please support our child by encouraging these skills and ensuring that items are clearly labelled- jumpers and cardigans are always hard to keep track of! Please remind your child, after hearing them read, to change their book if needed.

### Homework

We aim to provide three homework tasks per week, one literacy, one maths and spellings. Children are required to practise these spellings at home with support. In addition to completing the page from the spelling folder, children may also find it useful to write a sentence for each word. Spellings will be sent home each week and children will be tested on the following Friday. During the grammar and arithmetic maths tests, your child is required to spend at least 20 minutes on each test and can do a maximum of one page per week. As part of their maths homework, children are expected to regularly use RM easi maths at home. Each child's RM easi maths level has been reviewed and adjusted as required so questions are appropriate for their working level.

| Monday | Tuesday           | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday  |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|----------|---|
|        | Homework returned |           |          | All homework sent out including spellings. Spelling test. |

### Times tables

To support our child in learning their times tables, they need to first be secure in counting in twos, fives and tens. From this, children will need to progress onto knowing and recalling their times tables for the twos, fives and tens. As part of this there is an expectation that children will no longer need to skip count to reach the answer. In doing this children will be awarded the bronze award as part of the times tables challenge.

### Reading Diaries

Children are to read every night, with a minimum of five entries into their reading diary each week. Please hear our child read each day, commenting on how our child read and signing their reading diary each time. Included below is an example of a well-completed Year 2 reading diary:

| My Reading Record                |                        |   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Date                             | Book and page number   | Comments  |
| 13/12/16                         | The Motorway           | Reading was exciting for him. He recognised that he has read the book before. He said it nice to leave things for future purpose. Mum                               |
| 14/12/16                         | Transport Poems        | Enjoy reading was effortless and he made a song out of the words in Pg-10. Also he was very confident. Mum  |
| 15/12                            | Pocket Money           | Read with confidence and sounded his word. He had a good understanding of the story. Mum  |
| 16/12                            | Little Red Riding Hood | Wow! Chaper book... He did read it to his greatest surprise... Although had some challenges with some word but when he tried again he was able to pronounce it. Mum |
| diary checked<br>filled 19/12/16 |                        |   |

| Tricky words, or words to practise |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                                    |  |  |  |
|                                    |  |  |  |
|                                    |  |  |  |

| New sounds I have spotted (e.g. night rain) |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |

| My Reading Record |                                       |  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Date              | Book and page number                  | Comments   |
| 19/12             | At the Optician                       | Read very well. He had good understanding of the story. We work up on the word fuzzy and it's difficult to perceive. Mum                       |
| 20/12             | Why the Giraffe has a long Neck.      | A book from the library. Reading the book was exciting and he answered all the questions at the back of the book correctly. Mum                |
| 21/12             | Finn MacCool and the Giant's Causeway | Read very well. Have a good understanding of the story. He gave answers to all the questions. Mum  |
| 4/1/17            | Victorian Adventure                   | Read the book very well. He understands that Victorian is in the past. He was able to pronounce the word Buckingham Palace and blacksmith. Mum |

| Tricky words, or words to practise |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| bellows                            |  |  |  |
|                                    |  |  |  |
|                                    |  |  |  |

| New sounds I have spotted (e.g. night rain) |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |

### Broad and Balanced Curriculum

On the next page please find a copy of our curriculum map showing the main topics we will be covering.

As always your support of all that our child does is of enormous value to them and we will be most grateful for your continued support. Parent teacher meetings are scheduled to take place on the afternoons of 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 from 3.45pm until 7.00pm. Details of how to book an appointment will be sent out later in the half term.

With regards,



Mrs Whalley

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Maths</b><br/>We will be continuing with Maths Mastery. Our first topic is time where the children will look at reading and writing the time to the nearest 15 minute interval before then looking at the nearest 5 minute interval. We will also be teaching fractions looking at <math>\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}</math>, <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> and <math>\frac{1}{3}</math>. After exploring fractions, children will refine their addition and subtraction skills working with 2 digit numbers. Money will also be a focus this term. Please encourage our child to use money recognising values and working out change in coins and notes. Shape, patterns, faces, lines and turns will be taught this term with an important focus on the vocabulary for rotations and shape properties.</p> | <p><b>English</b><br/>In reading, children will continue to develop their comprehension skills. In particular, we will consider what has happened in a text, how characters are feeling (and how we know this) and the language that the author has used to add interest to a text.<br/>Through using the books of Julia Donaldson, we will continue to develop and improve our sentence writing skills. We will work more on the correct use of punctuation and grammar. We will build on using adjectives, fronted adverbials, conjunctions, nouns, verbs and adverbs in different forms of writing such as stories and poetry. During our grammar sessions we will be continuing to focus on the use of commas, exclamation marks, question marks and contractions (I have – I've) as well as making sure our tenses are consistent.</p> |
| <p><b>Religion</b><br/>During the Spring terms, we will be learning about the good news spread by Jesus in parables and miracles such as 'The Ten Lepers' and 'Jesus feeds 5,000 people'. We will be thinking about the lessons that we learn from these stories and what they mean to our faith. We will also begin to look more at the Mass to understand its different parts and their meanings.</p>  | <p><b>Science</b><br/>In our next Science topic we will be looking at plants and living things. We will encourage our child to discuss the changes in weather considering seasonal changes. Whilst learning about living things, we will consider lifecycles and how babies grow up to be adults.</p>   |
| <p><b>ICT</b><br/>Next term, we will be introducing children to algorithms where they will be exploring how to programme simple movable machines called Bee Bots. After this, children will be creating online stories whilst recapping on their e-safety knowledge.</p>   | <p><b>Music</b><br/>We will be singing a variety of topic based songs adding tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments. The children will further develop their performing, composing and listening skills through their songs and their understanding of the key elements of music, focusing on rhythm, pulse, pitch, dynamics and tempo.</p>  |
| <p><b>History</b><br/>In our History lessons, we will be learning about Stuart London and The Great Fire of 1666. We will also explore The Great Plague and how this affected London, the places and the people.</p>   | <p><b>PE</b><br/>Throughout the spring term, Year 2 will be learning about how to perform with excellence in gymnastics. Their outdoor lessons will further develop teamwork games, and move into striking and fielding skills.</p>   |
| <p><b>Art</b><br/>We will deepen our understanding of London during the Great Fire, through our art lessons. We will be developing our drawing skills by sketching and shading houses from the Stuart period. We will also be creating 'flame and fire' pieces using pastels, printing and chalks.</p>   | <p><b>Geography</b><br/>We will be studying our local environment (Bexley) and comparing it to Nigeria. We will learn to name and locate the world's continents and will discover where in the world Nigeria is. We will learn about Nigeria's physical features and its weather. We will also learn about life in Nigeria and how it is different to life in England.</p>  |
| <p><b>DT</b><br/>In DT we will be exploring the mechanism of a moving vehicle. We will be learning about axles, chassis, bodies and solid frames. Through our designs we will build and race a moving vehicle.</p>   | <p><b>Phonics</b><br/>This term, we will be concentrating on the suffixes and the prefixes from the spellings covered this half term. Please encourage our child to recognise spelling patterns throughout words and continue to work on the common exception words provided.</p>   |
| <p><b>Forest School</b><br/>We will be using the forest to enhance our experiences of the curriculum using natural resources around us.</p>  |   |