



ST. LEO'S AND SOUTHMEAD CATHOLIC NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
 SERVING THE COMMUNITY  
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Dear Parents/Carers of Children in Year 2

Throughout the spring term the children in Year 2 will have lots of fun and be very busy. If you would like to help your children with their learning, below are a few ideas to help you. This half term we will be learning the following:

**R.E.** - We will be thinking about books they have read. Please talk about your favourite book and what books you like to read. If possible all Year Two are asked to bring their favourite book into school to use during the topic.

During thanksgiving topic the children explore times they have said thanks. This topic explores thanks given each Sunday in mass and helps the children to understand the parts of a weekly mass in church. If possible go to mass at church with your child so they can experience a weekly mass.

Opportunities, is the unit which focuses upon Easter. Throughout Lent the children will be encouraged to do something to help others. Encourage your child to help at home each week or do something to help others this may be a family member or someone within the community.

**Maths**- In Maths this term the children will be developing their ability to know and use times tables. The children will continue to learn their times tables please support your child with learning the two, five and ten times table first before moving onto the three and four times tables. This can be done at anytime that you have a spare 5 minutes.

The children will be continue to develop their ability to handle money. This term the children will focus on totalling amounts using different coins and notes before exploring ways to calculate change from given amounts. Where possible let your child handle money or encourage your child when shopping to add up the costs of different items bought.

There will be a focus upon telling time to the hour, half past and quarter past, quarter to the hour. If possible please help your child to tell the time at home. This maybe reading, clocks within the home, in the car and in shops. Year Two is a great year for your child to start wearing a watch. If choosing a watch for your child please make sure it is a watch with a clock face with numbers as this will help your child use the skills they will be learning in class.

The children will be exploring a range of games and activities based upon using number bonds to twenty, number bonds to one hundred. The children are required to do this at speed. If possible please play games listed on the Year Two web page or use the apps recommended.

Throughout the year your child will be developing their counting skills. Each child needs to be able to count forwards and backwards up to at least 1000. If possible play games such as bingo, snakes and ladders, snap, monopoly, frustration all are fun and exciting ways to practise counting.

**English** – Please help your child to earn the weekly spellings tested each week in class on a Friday.

Reading books can be changed three times in Year Two. Please listen to your child read their book and return the book each week to receive a new book. When reading books given please continue to encourage your child to read known words without the use of the strategy of breaking each word into individual sounds. This will reduce the number of times your child sounds out words when reading and will develop the pace at which he/she reads.

Reading is a skill for life and the more children read the more confident they will become. Whenever possible let your child see you reading. If possible take time each night to share a story, book, comic, poem or rhyme before bed with your child. Bedtime reading can be a really enjoyable time and a good way to help your child relax before bed.

In English the children will be reading and writing stories based upon traditional stories and fantasy stories. The children will all continue to practise joining their handwriting and using the sounds they know to spell words needed. Please encourage your child to use the handwriting pack given to practise at home.

Year Two is a great year to help your child begin to write a daily diary. A book which I know will soon be filled with lots of happy memories. These fun activities will help your child develop their writing skills and handwriting skills which are assessed in the Year Two SATs

**Science**- In science the children will be learning about plants. If possible plant seeds and talk with your child about the conditions your plant needs to grow.

When shopping with your child talk about the different plants used to make the foods they eat. With your child make a healthy meal and share with a family member.

**Geography**- The children will continue to learn about the countries and continents of the world. This term the children will look closely at Australia and learn about the weather, animals and foods, famous landmarks and places in Australia. If possible visit the travel agents and collect brochures with photographs of different places within Australia. Collect photographs and souvenirs of holidays experienced.

**Music**- The children will use a variety of percussion instruments to create small pieces of music based upon different topics. At home listen to a piece of music and discuss the mood and feelings the music creates.

**D.T**- The children will be designing and making a healthy snack. Look at recipe and cookbooks with your child. Ask your child to describe the look, flavour and texture of different food they are eating. Help your child make a sandwich with their favourite fillings and write instructions for the process. Take your child to the local bakery or bread department of a supermarket and look at the different types of bread that can be bought.

**P.E.** This half term the children will be taking part in lots of fun activities using balance, stretching, movement and dance. When possible spend time with your child at local parks encourage your child to use the equipment.

**French**- The children will learn how to use French to name family members, colours and foods. You could encourage your child to tell you the key phrases they have been learning and to practice their pronunciation. Encourage your child to practice their French skills using on-line games.

Many thanks for your continued help and support, Should you need any further help please come and ask

Mrs McGuinness

