



St Mary's Catholic First School
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Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



11th September 2020

Dear Parents

Welcome back and welcome to Year 4. This year is a very important year for your children as they prepare themselves for Middle School next year. The expectation of the children with regard to independence, organisation and attitude will be very high this year to give them the mental strength and confidence to take on the challenges of Year 5.

Our topic this term is India and in Literacy we are looking at *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers as an initial way to discuss and think about the differences around us during these unusual times. We will then link back up with India by looking at Jamila Gavin's story 'Grandpa Chatterji' and use this to explore using powerful vocabulary and descriptive writing.

In maths we are looking at number this half term. This includes place value, rounding numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Once a week the children will have a problem solving lesson where they have to investigate, explain and give reasons for their choice of mathematical thinking.

Homework, spellings and Times tables will be given out each Friday. All homework is to be handed in each Thursday. Spellings and tables must be practised daily; weekly tests/dictations will happen every Friday. Please help your child get into the routine of daily revision and help them prepare for the weekly tests and dictations. We will also have mental maths tests frequently across the term. There is a reading reward system in class. So can I please encourage you to read with your child as often as you can and please sign their reading contact book. Through Guided Reading sessions every day, I listen to every child read over the course of a week. Please do get in touch with me if you have worries regarding your child's reading or need any ideas to help them read at home.

The children are welcome to change their reading books every day as soon as they arrive at 8.35 am by making sure they put their finished books into the correct box for cleaning.

Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Forest Schools will happen usually on a Wednesday but may happen on other days, so please could children bring in their



Forest School kits on a Monday, leave at school and take home for cleaning on a Friday.
For Forest School, please could children have wellington boots and waterproofs.

Please can you make sure that your child brings to school a bag that is as small as possible and that all clothing is clearly labelled to help us identify lost items.

I am very much looking forward to getting to know your child and yourselves better over the term and looking forward to a great year.

Yours sincerely

Mr Kay
Year 4 Class Teacher