

# Durham Class News

To provide a high-quality Catholic education for all children, enabling them to achieve their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

## Welcome Back

Welcome back to school! We hope that you have a fun-filled summer holiday and that you're ready for some exciting and challenging learning in Year Two.

Mr Ward will be teaching the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Heath will be teaching on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Hampson, Mrs Tomlinson and Mrs Adams will be our class Teaching Assistants.

Our topic theme for this half term is: **Food, Glorious Food!**

## Franciscan Values

As a school, we celebrate our Franciscan heritage and, last year, we introduced seven values – based on the Franciscan values – to underpin all that we do at St Elizabeth's. The seven values are: Joy, Forgiveness, Faith, Respect, Service, Peace and Stewardship. We will all strive to live out these values on a daily basis but each class will pay close attention to their own value. In Year 2, our value is **faith**. Take some time to think. What is faith? Do you know any Bible stories about faith? How can we show faith in our lives?



## Come and See

Our first topic in RE this term is 'Beginnings'. In this topic we will explore how God is with us at every beginning and how we can celebrate the many beginnings each day offers. We will be learning about the story of Creation and some of the Psalms that tell us about how God knows and loves each one of us. Look out for our 'Knowledge Organiser', which we will send home to support your learning in RE.

Our second topic this half term is 'Signs and Symbols', in which we will be thinking about the symbols of infant Baptism. We will be learning how the Church family welcomes a new baby. Another 'Knowledge Organiser' will be sent home when we start this topic.

Prayer and worship remain an integral part of each day and the children are very welcome to bring in and share any prayers or books on our class prayer table.

## English

In Read, Write Inc and Phonics, children will be assessed regularly and placed into groups to support their early reading, spelling and writing. We will also begin to learn the rules for adding suffixes and prefixes, in line with Year Two expectations, as part of our daily Writing lessons. During these Read, Write Inc lessons, we explicitly teach phonics, reading, writing, grammar and spelling.

In our Talk 4 Writing lessons, we will be creating our own version of the story 'Fussy Freda'! This is the story of a girl who was so fussy that she refused to eat anything that was cooked for her. However, Freda's fussy eating soon has disastrous consequences! We will be using the Talk 4 Writing model to learn the story and eventually write our own! We will be focussing on using basic sentence punctuation, how to use commas in a list, conjunctions and adjectives. Following this we will be learning how to write instructions - using imperative verbs and adverbs.

## Mathematics

As a school we will be using Power Maths for the teaching of Mathematics this year. Our first unit is all about Numbers to 100. We will be learning to count numbers to 100, use different ways to show numbers to 100, use place value grids to make and compare numbers,

compare and order numbers to 100 and count in 2s, 5s and 10s. Following this we will be developing our understanding of Addition and Subtraction. We will learn how to use related number facts, compare number sentences, make number bonds to 100, add and subtract ones and tens, add 2-digit numbers and 1-digit numbers and subtract.

## Science

In Science we will be considering how our bodies change as we grow up and how we can stay fit and healthy. We will be exploring the importance of a healthy, balanced diet and regular exercise.

## History

In History we will be learning about significant individuals from different periods and exploring how Mary Seacole, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela and Marcus Rashford have contributed to changes in society and made the world a better place today. We will be concentrating on the Main Events in their lives and their impact on society.

## Geography

In Geography, we'll be revisiting and consolidating our learning from Year 1 about maps of the world and then we will be learning about the capital cities of the UK, identifying physical and human features of these locations.

## Art

In Art the children will be exploring the work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo, who used fruit and vegetables to create portraits. We will be drawing our own self-portraits using pencil, charcoal and pastels and then creating collages inspired by Arcimboldo.

## Computing

We will be linking our computing to our topic work this half term. We will be using Purple Mash to explore questioning and data collection, linked to healthy eating. Following this we will learning how to stay safe online.

## PE

On Wednesdays we will be working with a professional coach to develop our dance skills. The topic is based on the book Giraffes Can't Dance. We'll be exploring animal movements and then learning steps for the different dances that the animals perform in the story. On Thursdays we have yoga.

## Music

In Music, our topic is called Hands, Feet, Heart. Hands, Feet, Heart is a song written for children to celebrate and learn about South African Music. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise different styles of South African music.

### Reading at Home

Children are expected to read for 10 minutes every day and the more often they read the better! This includes reading to an adult. Please record 5 words your child struggled to read fluently in the diary and practise these. You and your child can also give a star rating about how you felt about reading that day. It is essential that reading books and diaries come into school each day and taken home every evening and at the weekend. Children's books will be changed at the beginning of each week. They are encouraged to read the same book multiple times to develop fluency, expression and comprehension. Our new Read, Write Inc Book-Bag Books contain lots of questions and activities to support reading at home. Of course, children should also be encouraged to read more widely too, reading books they have at home or from the library with an adult or independently.

### Water Bottles

Children are asked to ensure they bring a water bottle to school each day. They are encouraged to drink water throughout the day to aid concentration. Water bottles should be taken home each night for washing.

### P.E. Kit

The children will have two P.E. lessons each week – taught by Mr Ward and external coaches. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing their 'active uniform'/PE kit on Wednesdays and Thursdays (this will change each half term). Indoor kit should include: black shorts, yellow polo shirt and black plimsolls. Outdoor kit should include: plain black tracksuit bottoms, yellow polo shirt, yellow sweatshirt and outdoor trainers.

If you have any quick questions please feel free to speak to us at the end of the school day once all of the children have been dismissed. If, at that point, you feel you require a longer appointment we can arrange a socially distanced meeting via the school office (01773822278).

You can also contact the Year 2 team via email: [durham@st-elizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:durham@st-elizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk). We are really looking forward to an exciting half term and a fun-filled year.

### Mr T Ward, Mrs R Heath and the Year Two Team

Reminders	
Monday	Start new Read, Write Inc book.
Tuesday	
Wednesday	PE (Come to school in 'active' uniform/PE kit)
Thursday	PE (Come to school in 'active' uniform/PE kit)
Friday	