



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



Newsletter Term 1.1 Advent



'LEADERS ARE AMBITIOUS'



'PUPILS RELISH CHALLENGE'



'PUPILS ENJOY SCHOOL'



'PUPILS GET OFF TO A FLYING START'

OFSTED 2020

A warm welcome to our Sacred Heart community, new and old. We have missed you all! At the end of our first six week half term during a pandemic, I am pleased to tell you we have enjoyed many successes. Our attendance continues to be above expectations and inline with this time in 2019. The children run into school each day eager to learn and excel. It is our aim to ensure we build on the independence learned through the lockdown and we have now developed many more opportunities across the school. A key development is in class Acts of Worship; Virtual Storytime and Praise assemblies. We continue to build children's 'Cultural Capital' by sharing a great artist each week, looking at world news events and praying for those in need. We have joined forces with Sacred Heart Church to support a Loughborough charity BACA which supports young refugees who have arrived to this area with nothing and no-one to help them. In conjunction with Sacred Heart Church we are also looking forward to adding 'Our Lady Undoer of knots' statue to our nature area. This is the result of our newly formed Catholic Life Committee 's efforts to forge ever closer links between the Parish and school. This will be an area of contemplation and prayer and children will be able to add a knotted ribbon to the trellis grotto.



New Reception Parents evening

During the first week of term we welcomed our newest members of the community into our Reception Class. 31 children, two sets of twins and many siblings and cousins excitedly joined our Sacred Heart family. Each day we welcomed ten families to share in our vision for the next steps to success for our school. Families pledged to support their children to 'Live, Learn and Love' in the Sacred Heart way. We are also an 'Early Adopter EYFS School'. This means we have opted to teach to new EYFS Early learning goals a year ahead of the statutory start date. The key changes are a stronger literacy focus, new 'Self-regulation' goals and Y1 arithmetic goals moving down to Reception class. My thanks go to Mrs Wild, Mrs Keast, Mrs Cleaver and Mrs White who offered a parent's perspective and encouraged new parents to be part of our Fosha fundraising team. The meeting took place in our beautiful new outdoor classroom with funds raised solely by the parents for the children.



Blessing of Reception Bibles

Thank you to Father Paul Chipchase for blessing our Reception children's first Bibles.



Early learning fun with Reception



New Library

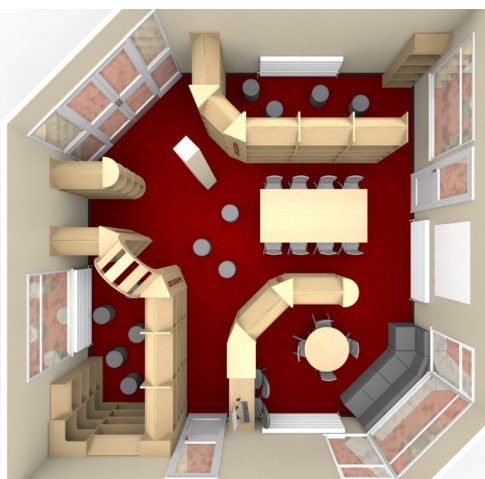
As a reading school we want our children to enjoy books in a comfortable library. We have found the perfect arrangement and need your help to make it a reality. FOSHA will combine their efforts with ours to aim to raise £14000. Would you like your family name to be remembered as part of the Sacred Heart story? I have started the ball rolling and will sponsor the 'A' shelf.

You can make a learning legacy donation in the following way:

1. Gift £50 for a named shelf (eg A for Atkins)
2. Gift £100 for seating
3. Gift £5 for a name plate in a book.

If you wish to donate. Please contact the school office.

Please see the plans for our new library below. The Studio will be the location which is fitting as the heart of the school. The current library will be used for Wrap around care.



Chaplain Visit

Well done to all our new Chaplains, they look so proud with their new badges and enjoyed a great morning training with Tom Shannon, our CMAT Chaplain in our new outdoor classroom. They are now beginning to lead class Acts of Worship and share their faith with others through prayer, reflections and living out our Sacred Heart Mission Statement.



Staff inset

The staff benefitted from a half day training with behaviour expert, Ben Kingston-Hughes. A Covid addendum to the current behaviour policy was subsequently written and we will develop our Character Education through a programme with PHE for the remainder of this year. This will further embed and develop our Enhanced Mental health award Status and Route2Resilience Award.

We intend to further develop our Forest School provision and now intend to offer one weekly session for every class, each week. Many skills will be shared and developed with our fully trained and accredited Forest School Teacher and nature enthusiast, Mrs Thorpe. The session will also be used as a positive reinforcement and 'carrot' to ensure children self-regulate their behaviour at school. We will monitor this development closely and let you know how effective it is.



Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone for the support with this year's Harvest collection. It was wonderful to see so many children bringing in cleaning packs ready for collection to our local charity The Bridge in Loughborough. Year 2 led our virtual Act of Worship this year and reminded us how CAFOD have been helping farmers all over the world and how people like Eric, who lives in El Salvador have been supported during lockdown. Year 2 also shared their own harvest prayers as we reflected on the Gospel of Matthew, "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink."



School Calendars

A limited number have been printed and are on sale for £4 each. Please contact the Office for a copy which will be sent home with your child.



Phase 3 Recovery Planning and intervention

Guided by the assessments made by the teachers this half term, targeted Phonics support is being offered through additional support to the teacher within class time in Years 1 and 2. Early morning intervention has also started in Years 4 and 6 and is anticipated to start in Years 3 and 5 after half-term. These groups are targeted for children who the teachers believe need a little additional support in order for them to catch up. Currently, there are groups for literacy topics, such as Reading, Grammar and Spelling as well as a maths group in Year 6.

Eco Club

In each class (Y1-Y6) this year, there are two Eco Warriors. These children are representatives of the Eco Team and will have extra responsibilities within their classroom, such as: ensuring the lights are turned off when there is nobody in the classroom; ensuring paper and card within the classroom is recycled rather than thrown in general waste and ensuring that everyone is responsible for their own litter, especially when eating lunch outside. Throughout the year, there will be projects which promote looking after our planet, keeping the encyclical of Pope Francis, 'care for our common home' in our minds.

The main areas of focus for this year, taken from the encyclical, will be:

- Pollution
- Climate change
- Loss of biodiversity
- Water

Our first project is our 'Eco Art' project - thank you to everyone who has already sent in plastic bottle tops. Please continue to send them in as we will need lots to complete the artwork in each class.

KS2 LIVE Online Google Assembly

Year 4, 5 and 6 took part in a live Online Safety assembly presented by Google staff. They had a surprise introduction from our local MP Jane Hunt, then were launched into the world of Interland. The children were reminded on why it is important to keep safe online and were given some useful advice, such as creating a password with at least eight characters and to include numbers and symbols. They have free access to Interland via https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_us/interland and parents, you can keep in touch with all the latest online safety tips, including TikTok, Fortnite etc and how to lead a safe digital family life via <https://parentzone.org.uk/home>



School Parliament

The first job of our newly elected parliament was to choose which chicken suited which name.

Y6– Scrambled (Light golden)

Y5– Benjamina (Black & white)

Y4– Goldie (Dark golden one)

Y3– Popcorn (White with dark top)

Y2– Rosie (Pure white)

Y1 – Bob (Dark brown)



The School Parliament's next job is to decide how Sacred Heart will raise money for Children in Need. Information on this to follow.





**SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY**

SIT UP



LISTEN

ASK & ANSWER QUESTIONS



NEVER INTERRUPT

TRACK THE SPEAKER

