



Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School! I hope you have all had a restful half term and are ready for the upcoming festive weeks ahead! The children have settled in really well to the start of our second term ready for the upcoming term ahead! Nativity practice is already underway and the children are doing brilliantly at learning the songs!

Our topic this term is 'Toys, past and present', where in history we will be looking at toys our grandparents and great-grandparents would have played with when they were young, if you have any old toys that the children could bring in we would be delighted to share them with the class! In English we will be learning about the 'Fireworks poem' and a non-chronological report called 'Tigers'. As mathematicians we are looking at place value up until 100! As well as our addition and subtraction facts up to 10. As scientists we will be looking at the season of winter and how the weather changes throughout this time. Overleaf is a copy of our 'Topic Web', detailing the learning areas that we will cover this term.

PE will continue to be on a Friday, as well as Tuesday this term. Please make sure your child arrives in their school PE kit on both PE days so that they can make the most of their PE time. Just a reminder that items of clothing should be clearly named at all times - even socks! Items of clothing that are not named and that the children cannot identify will go straight into lost property. Please ensure that all clothing remains in line with the school's policy. Additionally, a reminder that children are not to bring in toys unless it has been discussed.

The same as last term, the children will be given English or Maths based homework via TEAMS along with spellings in a green book, unless requested otherwise, please let the school know if this changes. Homework will be set on a Friday and will be due in on the following Wednesday so that it can be marked. Please note that homework that is not handed in on this day may not be marked. Spellings will be set based on the sounds or rules learnt throughout the week, to make it clear the specific sounds will be written on the spellings. These will not be unfamiliar/new words and will be practised within their daily Phonics session. It is expected that your child practises these in preparation for a spelling test on a Thursday which will be monitored throughout the year. Please **do not** practise these spellings in your child's green spelling book but on a separate piece of paper.

Children are now being introduced to new Phase 5 sounds, which will appear in their spellings. Over the coming term, we will gradually begin sending home reading books for most children. This is a careful process because we want every child to feel confident and successful with the books they take home—ideally reading with at least 95% accuracy. Please be aware that this means some children may not bring books home straight away. When your child does receive a book, you'll notice that the back of the book lists the new sounds it focuses on.

At St Joseph's we really value the importance of daily reading at home. Rewarding those children who read 5 times per week with a reading point will continue throughout Year 1 and will be awarded on your child's Group Reading day. "Star of the Day" will continue this term, each child has already received Mr Wolf/ Daisy and so will have more chances to be able to bring the teddy and a book home. Please ensure that the book and bear are

returned the next day so that other children have the opportunity to explore additional books of their choice. We love reading in year 1 and so if your child would like to bring in a story to share with the class they are more than welcome, however due to many children bringing in books we may not be able to read it on the day they bring it in.

Finally, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Aimee Read