



# Upper Key Stage 2 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2016

## Welcome Back

A big welcome back to school is extended to all of the children in Year 5 and 6 back after the summer break. The children are clearly ready to learn, and their enthusiasm for a new school year has been very impressive. We would like to thank parents for ensuring their child arrived at school in the correct school uniform. We do appreciate your efforts to support us in making sure our pupils look extremely smart. They are a credit to their families and to the school. There have been some changes to the staffing in year 5 and 6. Both year groups continue with two form classes. We are really pleased to welcome Mr Fairclough to the Upper key stage 2 team. As many of you may know, he successfully completed his BA QTS education degree with us last year. He will now be employed until the beginning of the summer term, supporting a range of groups in year 5. Mrs. McNally will continue to support and challenge a range of different ability groups in year 6 throughout the year, in preparation for their end of key stage 2 assessments. Autumn sees the beginning of a very important period in the children's education and we are confident that we will have a great year with many successes. Year six have embarked on a particularly challenging year, with their SAT tests in May 2017. However, we are confident that the children will work hard all year in preparation for the tests.

## Staff in the Upper Key Stage 2 Area

Mr Cotton—Year Six  
Mr Garth—Year Six  
Mrs McNally—Year Six  
Miss Topping—Year Five  
Miss Gilchrist—Year Five  
Mr Fairclough—Year Five

Teaching assistants:  
Miss Gallagher—Year Five  
Mrs Shawcross—Year Five  
Miss Stinson—Year Five  
Ms Roberts—Year Six

## Attendance and Punctuality

We would like to thank parents for their efforts in ensuring your children are in school every day and arrive on time.

Attendance figures for this half term so far:

Week 1: Miss Topping - 94.7%; Miss Gilchrist - 97.9%; Mr Garth - 98.4%; Mr Cotton - 98.3%.  
Week 2: Miss Topping - 98%; Miss Gilchrist - 95.4%; Mr Garth - 97.1%; Mr Cotton - 96.5%.  
Erin from Y6 won the 100% individual attendance for KS2, receiving a book voucher.

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**Our Lady  
Immaculate  
Catholic Primary  
School**

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### Home activities

- © BBC Revisewise
- © BBC Bitesize
- © Times Tables Revision
- © Reading practice
- © Multiple Wipeouts App
- © 101 Science App

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## Numeracy



These are some of the areas the children will be covering in numeracy this term:

- ◆ Mental Arithmetic
- ◆ Times tables
- ◆ Place value
- ◆ Formal written methods
- ◆ Fractions, decimals and percentages

## Literacy

Y5 – Novels and stories by significant children's authors and Legends.

Y6 – Biographies, autobiographies, and persuasive writing.

We have allocated part of the Year Five and Six timetable on focused work to develop children's understanding of grammar, punctuation and spelling. These skills will also be interwoven into other areas of the curriculum.

## Handwriting and Presentation

As always, the school puts a significant focus on presentation and handwriting throughout the curriculum. We demand high quality presentation of children's work, in all subjects, and help them to improve through the *Nelson* handwriting programme. Our aim is that all children in Key Stage two are writing in a joined, cursive style as soon as possible. On occasions, we will be sending handwriting homework and are happy for parents/carers to support their child with these tasks. An excellent website that parents can access to support their child is [www.teachhandwriting.co.uk](http://www.teachhandwriting.co.uk)

## Reading at Home

Reading continues to be an important focus for the children this year. Pupils will take part in guided reading and reciprocal reading sessions throughout the week.

Reading at home every evening is recommended for 10-15 minutes and this should be evidenced by parents signing their children's reading records, as this is a vital avenue of communication between school and home.

## ICT

The children in Year 5 are using a coding website ([code.org](http://code.org)) to practice basic skills around coding; eventually leading to them designing their own codes and games. In Year 5/6 the children will be learning how to create emails, how to programme, how to de-bug, use publisher for a specific audience and create spreadsheets/graphs. Two children have been chosen from each class to be trained as ICT monitors to help with the management of ICT around the classrooms. The children will be empowered to be able to locate the correct ICT equipment and set it up for their class mates. It is hoped that this will enable the children to develop their confidence when using computing equipment.



## Spanish

Children will continue to build upon their previous knowledge of the Spanish language with weekly lessons delivered by our Spanish teacher, Eva. They will continue to develop their vocabulary and use of everyday phrases.

# Come and See

Topics which will be covered in the autumn term are:

**Year Five:** Family: Ourselves; Belonging: Life choices; Judaism; Advent: Loving Hope.

**Year Six:** Family: Loving; Belonging: Vocation & commitment; Judaism; Loving: Expectations.

Each class in Upper Key Stage 2 will be delivering a **class assembly** during the year. Dates as follows:

Mr. Garth: 14/11/16    Mr. Cotton: 21/11/16    Miss Gilchrist: 20/03/16    Miss Topping: 26/06/16

**More information on exact timings will be sent nearer the date.**

## Colomendy

Thirty pupils from Year Six visited Kingswood Colomendy, in North Wales on the 28th September for our annual residential trip. This was a great opportunity for them to experience a range of exciting outdoor activities; and to develop a sense of independence. The trip was a great success and was one of our best residential trips to date. The children were so enthusiastic and demonstrated a real sense of independence, team work and have-a-go attitude. Check out the school website for photographs. Our 2017 Colomendy trip for the current year five has already been booked for 27th September. More information will be provided at the beginning of the summer term.

## Topic

**Year Five:**        Why is Brazil in the news again? How can we rediscover the wonder of Ancient Egypt?

**Year Six:**        I'm a year six pupil get me out of here!

## Homework

Children in Year Five will receive homework on a regular basis – at least three times per week, and are expected to read at home for at least 10-15 minutes each night. These activities support and reinforce their learning in school. Parents can support the school by helping their children with these tasks and ensuring that tasks are brought back into school by the deadline.

Year Six will be given written homework on Mondays and Tuesdays, to be returned the following day. For the remainder of the week they will be required to spend at least 15 minutes reading. Staff would appreciate if parents could sign children's planners on a daily basis, to confirm homework has been completed.

Children can also access a range of educational applications on the school website and are expected to use the *Mathletics* programme at home, to further develop their maths skills. Children are invited to access our homework club which is held every Thursday at 3.30pm. This is a valuable opportunity for children to complete homework tasks in a calm and quiet environment, with the support of Mr. Southworth. Children attending the club are welcome to bring a snack.

## Dates for Diary

Half-term

Anti-bullying week

Autumn term ends

24th – 28th October 2016

14th November 2016

21st December 2016

## PE/Swimming

Year Five and Six began their swimming lessons at Everton Park this week. These are extremely important lessons in our aim of all children being able to swim at least 25m confidently by the end of Year Six. Please ensure your child brings the correct kit each Tuesday:

Girls: One-piece swimming costume, swimming cap and a towel.

Boys: Tight-fitting shorts and a towel.

Children are also allowed to wear goggles and can bring a healthy snack and drink to take to the baths.

Lessons will move to Thursday mornings after October half term.

Children in Year Five and Six will also have dance lessons, with

Adele, on Fridays. All pupils are expected to bring their school

PE kit in a bag to get changed into before the lesson.



## Music

Throughout the autumn term, pupils in Upper Key Stage Two will have lessons with Miss Hardwick, from Resonate Music Hub. The children will be listening and appraising as well as playing instruments to a variety of songs, with a focus on "Don't Stop Believing" (Year 5) and "Living on a Prayer" (Year 6).



## Useful App's



I am Learning KS2 Maths



My Times tables



I am Learning KS2 English



Grammar Quiz Primary 1



Spelling Test



Times Table Quiz



Northumberland Terrace

Everton

Liverpool

L5 3QF

Tel No: 0151-260-8957

Fax No: 0151-260-8786

Email: [admin@oliprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@oliprimaryschool.co.uk)

Website: [www.oliprimary.co.uk](http://www.oliprimary.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs C Sergeant

## Information

Log onto our website for latest news and information about the school.

[www.oliprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.oliprimaryschool.co.uk)