

The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School

Kingsland Gardens, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN2 7BH



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Wednesday, 19th October 2022

Dear Parents & Careers,

As we approach the end of our first term, I would like to write to celebrate all the wonderful work we have seen this term from the children.

We have celebrated Mass at St Aidan's with years 4, 5 and 6 where we have been praised for the children's behaviour. Year 5 St Bernadette's class attended an assembly at Northampton Cathedral where they saw the holy relics of St Bernadette. Our Year 6 Ethos Team attended the Diocesan Schools Mass in Dunstable. Mrs Maddison took a large number of children to a sports celebration day at Benham Sports Centre, Forest school sessions are now up and running on a two-week timetable for all year groups. We have relaunched the school council as The Junior Leadership Team in assembly today!! We have been very busy!

As you will have seen from our new termly newsletters, we have launched our new curriculum;

[The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School - Curriculum Overviews](#)

Last year, as we returned from Covid we very much focused on Reading/Writing/Religious Education/ Mathematics and Personal and Social Development. More recently, we began to look closely at the wider curriculum such as Design and Technology, Music, French, History, Geography, Science, Art, Music and Computing.

Teachers spent the September training days getting their heads around CUSP (Our new curriculum).

We have worked extremely hard to introduce the new curriculum and it is clear in the children's books that they are developing a deeper knowledge of a range of subjects. There is a real focus on vocabulary which was evident in our recent pupil voice. We were blown away with how well Year 2 could articulate their learning around The Great Fire of London. Whilst Year 1 could explain their focus of maps in Geography and continents. In Year 3 they could explain what Palaeolithic means!

We would encourage you to ask your children at home about their learning. For example; what have you been learning about in History/Geography/Art? Ask them about the new vocabulary they have learnt.

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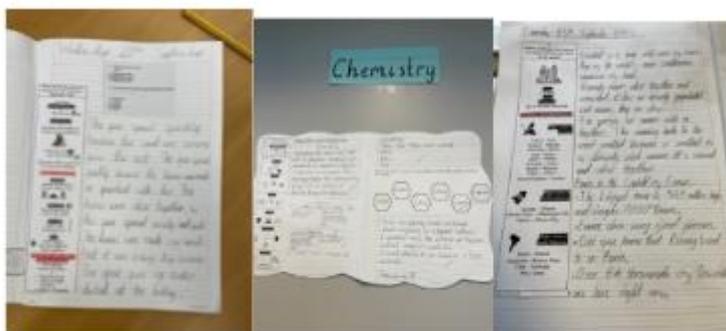
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I have been in numerous lessons over the past few weeks and I can see first-hand, children fully engaged in their learning and able to articulate what they have been learning both in the classroom and beyond in PE/Forest School.



We look forward to sharing your children's books with you over the year ahead. We can now inform you that Parents Evening will be taking the same process as last year with one session being on TEAMS and the other face to face.

- Tuesday 8th November – TEAMS
- Thursday 10th November – Face to face

You will be able to make your preferred appointment by booking on our new MCAS app from 4.30pm today.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who joined us at our open morning on Saturday 8th October and to those of you who helped or dropped children off to help, I thank you too!!

It was a truly wonderful morning. Today, we celebrated Harvest by bringing in a tin of soup/beans/pasta etc. to donate to the Cathedral Food store instead of donating the usual £1 to school funds. I thank you all for your generous donations because I understand how challenging it is at present for many families.

Once again, thank you for your continued support this term and for all of your positive and helpful feedback. We really do appreciate it.

Have a wonderful half term!

Mrs Dodds

Headteacher