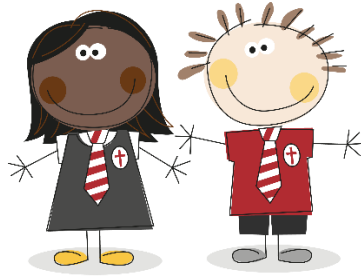


Dean Gibson Catholic Primary School
Finches Class Spring 1 Newsletter



Curiosity, Diversity, Outdoors

Friday 12th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share with you an overview of the topics that your child/ren will be learning this half of the Spring term in Finches Class as well as some other important information.

At Dean Gibson, we value the important partnership between home and school. Please use the information below to support your child with their learning over the coming weeks.





If you have any questions about the information below, please feel free to make an appointment or catch me for a quick chat.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Miss Hodgson

Below are the topics that we are going to be studying this half term:

Curriculum Overview Spring 1 Finches

Subjects	Finches will be learning about...	Subjects	Finches will be learning about....
RE 	Galilee to Jerusalem We will be focussing on the visit of the Magi at Epiphany, the Kingdom of God, the parable of the Sower, the miracles that Jesus performed and the 'Our Father' prayer.	History 	Prehistoric Britain We will explore the bigger picture of Prehistoric Britain before exploring artefacts and what they tell us and then thinking about what they ate in prehistoric times. We will continue this work into the second part of the Spring term.
English 	Narrative Non-Chronological Reports We will look at the story of 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura, writing our own narrative based on the story and then move on to thinking about non-chronological report based	Art/DT 	Art – Colour and Tone We will look at tints, tones and shades, light and shadow and warm and cold colours before looking closely at the work of Pablo Picasso. DT - Preparing Fruit and Vegetables. We will begin sharing what

	on our learning of Prehistoric Britain		we know about fruit and vegetables and do some research before undertaking the designing, making and evaluating process.
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Multiplication and Division</p> <p>Statistics</p> <p>Measurement</p>	<p>Music</p> 	<p>Inventing a Music Story</p> <p>We will concentrate on the process of understanding music, listening and responding, we will learn to sing a song and play an instrument along with a song before composing, improvising and performing.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Plants</p> <p>In Science we will be exploring what a plant needs to survive, the life cycle of a plant, pollination and seed dispersal before conducting an investigation.</p>	<p>PE</p> 	<p>Swimming (Year 3 only)</p> <p>Yoga (Year 2 only)</p> <p>Cricket</p> <p>We will be building upon our bowling, batting and fielding skills from last year with Adam.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Hot and Cold Deserts</p> <p>In Geography we will explore the question; 'what is the difference between weather and climate?' before learning about what a desert is, where they are located and the different features of hot and cold deserts. We will continue this work into the second part of the Spring term.</p>	<p>HRSE/PSHE</p> 	<p>Personal Relationships</p> <p>We will be talking about the special people in our lives and how we treat others.</p> <p>Online Reputation</p> <p>We will be learning about the need to be careful before sharing anything online and discussing who we can ask if we are unsure about putting something online</p>





Our Class Timetable





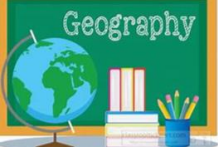

A typical week in the Finches looks like this:

Finches Class Timetable														
Spring 1 2023-2024														
Times	8:50-8:55	8:55-9:15	9:15-9:30	9:30-10:30	10:30-10:45	10:45-11:45	11:45-12:00	12:00-12:55	1:05-2:00	2:00-2:10	2.10-3:05	3:05-3:20	3.20	
Monday	Register	Whole School Prayer and Liturgy	Phonics Intervention/ Spelling	English	Break	Maths	Handwriting	Lunch	RE	Run	RE	Storytime	Home Time	
Tuesday	Register	Phonics Intervention/ Spelling		English		Maths	Handwriting		Science	Run	Science	Storytime		
Wednesday	Register	Wednesday Word Singing Assembly	Phonics Intervention/ Spelling	English		Maths	Handwriting		PPA DT	Run	PPA Music	PPA Spanish		Storytime
Thursday	Register	Phonics Intervention/ Spelling		9.30-10.00 Maths Input		10-11am Cricket	11.15-11.45 Maths		Handwriting	VIPERS	Run	History		Picture News Assembly (Sparrows and Finches)
Friday	Register	Phonics Intervention/ Spelling		9.30 – 11.20 Y3 – Swimming with SH		Y2 – PE Maths Focus (Times Table and Number Bond) Individual Readers			Library Visit	Computing	Run	Geography		Celebration Assembly

Homework

Choose one of the tasks from the below grid each week and complete, adding a note or a copy of the work that you have done to your homework books. Homework books will be checked each week, please ensure that these are kept in book bags.

Subject	Homework Task	Subject	Homework Task
 RE	<p>Think about the Kingdom of God, how can we help it to grow? Can you do a small act of kindness to help someone else? Can you share something with someone less fortunate or in need?</p> <p>Have a quiet think about the 'Our Father' prayer, why did Jesus teach his disciples to pray this?</p>	 History	<p>We will be looking at artefacts from Prehistoric Britain and what they tell us about this period in History but what artefacts would you select to tell archaeologists about Britain today? Think about the things that you could place in a time capsule to describe living in 2024 for someone in the future.</p>
 English	<p>Read a wide range of texts out loud to someone at home or quietly to yourself. You could choose from home readers, your Library book or some texts you have at home.</p> <p>Practise your Common Exception Spelling Words from in your Homework Book.</p>	 Art/DT	<p>Make a shopping list of the fruit and vegetables that you and your family eat in a week.</p> <p>Plan a healthy meal using a range of different fruit and vegetables.</p> <p>Help an adult at home prepare a meal.</p>

<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Continue to access TTRockstars a little and often to support with the learning of your times tables.</p> <p>Can you make your own game to play to help you to learn them?</p> <p>(Y2 should focus on 2's, 5's and 10's, Y3 should be learning their 3's, 4's and 8's)</p>	<p>Music</p> 	<p>Listen to some different music at home, what picture does this build in your imagination? Draw or write a story to share what the music makes you think of.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Can you plant your own seed and watch it grow? Create your own growth diary and record the changes that you observe.</p> <p>Look outside the window, what changes can you see in the plants and trees as we approach a new season?</p>	<p>PE</p> 	<p>Tell someone at home what the key skills are that we have been learning in Cricket with Adam. How do we hold the bat? What must we remember when we are bowling? What makes a good fielder?</p> <p>Take part in an online yoga session with someone at home. How did it make you feel? What did you enjoy about it?</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Make a travel brochure for a desert of your choice. Why should someone visit? Where is the desert located? What are its key features?</p>	<p>HRSE/PSHE</p> 	<p>Think of all the special people in your life and why they are special to you. Draw a picture and describe what makes each of these people special.</p> <p>Do something special for a special person – can you give them a hug, help with a job, give up some of your time or something else to make them smile?</p> <p>Tell someone at home how to stay safe online.</p>

PE

Cricket for the Finches Class will be on a Thursday morning, please make sure that you have an outdoor PE kit consisting of black bottoms, a white t-shirt and black zip up/hoodie, no football kits please. Children will also need suitable outdoor footwear.

Swimming will continue for our Year 3 children only on a Friday morning. Please ensure that your child/ren come to school 'swim ready' with their swimming costume/shorts underneath their school uniform. This ensures that we get maximum time in the swimming pool.

Whilst the Year 3 children are swimming, Year 2 will participate in some yoga, please ensure that their PE pumps are in school.

Outdoor Learning

We will be making the most of outside space and taking our learning outdoors as much as possible in all areas of the curriculum but for one day each term we will spend the whole day learning outside, please make sure that your child/ren has weather suitable clothing i.e. wellies and waterproofs, sunhat and suncream on these days. More information and dates to follow.

Reading

Thank you for the effort that you put into reading with your child/ren at home. This is the key to developing skills across the curriculum and the more you can do, the more your child will be able to use these skills in all areas of their learning. Remember to talk to your child about what they are reading as well as listening to them – the type of questions that need an explanation should be combined with fact finding questions. Reading books will continue to be changed in class on a Monday and we will also visit the Library each week to bring home a book to simply enjoy with you at home. Bookbags

should be brought to school each day.

Uniform Reminder

Please could you ensure that all uniform including jumpers and ties, PE kits, lunch boxes, water bottles and coats etc. are named.

Snacks

Fruit is provided in class for snacks during morning playtime. If your child/ren wishes to bring a healthy snack i.e. a different piece of fruit, cereal bar etc. to enjoy from home rather than our fruit, please make sure that this is in their bookbags, ready to be stored in their trays once they come into class. Children should not be choosing from their lunchboxes for snack time.