

Dean Gibson Catholic Primary School
Finches Class Spring 2 Newsletter



Curiosity, Diversity, Outdoors

Monday 19th February

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share with you an overview of the topics that your child/ren will be learning in the second 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, we are looking forward to another exciting half term in the run up to Easter,

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 	Desert to Garden We will be learning about the miracle of the loaves, the last supper, celebrating the Mass, the Eucharist Prayer, God's great love and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	History 	Prehistoric Britain We will continue to explore the Stone Age to the Iron Age with a focus on prehistoric food, homes and beliefs before reflecting on what we have learnt over the term.
English 	Recounts Book: Alejandro's Gift by Richard E Albert.	Art/DT 	Art – Colour and Tone We will continue to look at tints, tones and shades, light and shadow and warm and cold colours before looking closely at the work of Pablo Picasso.

	<p>Balanced Arguments Book: Here We Are by Oliver Jeffers.</p>		<p>DT - Preparing Fruit and Vegetables. We will continue undertaking the designing, making and evaluating process of our fruit and vegetables unit of work.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Division Statistics Measurement</p>	<p>Music</p> 	<p>Recognising different sounds 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>Living Things and their Habitats. We will begin by considering whether things are alive, dead or have never been alive before looking closely at habitats and microhabitats. We will then move on to learn about what lives in a hot desert and how things are adapted to live in the cold. We will end our topic by learning all about food chains.</p>	<p>PE</p> 	<p>Swimming (Year 3 only) Yoga (Year 2 only) Games</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Hot and Cold Deserts In Geography we will continue to explore hot and cold deserts, looking at their features before comparing them and consolidating our learning from the term.</p>	<p>HRSE/PSHE</p> 	<p>Personal Relationships We will be talking about the special people in our lives and how we treat others. Online Reputation 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


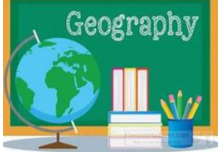
A typical week in Spring 2 for the Finches looks like this:

Finches Class Timetable														
Spring 2 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	12-12:55	1:00-2:00	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	Prayer and Liturgy	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		PE	Run	History	Picture News Assembly (Sparrows and Finches)		
Thursday	Register	Phonics Intervention/ Spelling		English - VIPERS		Maths	Handwriting		PPA Week A – DT Week B - Art	Run	PPA Music	PPA Spanish		Storytime
Friday	Register	Phonics Intervention/ Spelling	Library Visit	9.30 – 11.15 Y3 – Swimming with SH Y2 – PE (Yoga) Maths Individual Readers		PSHE	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
 <p style="text-align: center;">RE</p>	<p>Share with someone at home the Easter story and create a storyboard to illustrate the events from the Last supper to Jesus rising again.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">History</p>	<p>Think about what you have learnt about life in the Stone Age. Can you get creative and make model of a Stone Age home/settlement, a stone circle such as Stonehenge or a Stone Age tool?</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">English</p>	<p>This half term, we will celebrate World Book Day. Write a review of a book that you have recently enjoyed, why would you recommend it?</p> <p>Don't forget to read, a little and often.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Art/DT</p>	<p>Complete some research on the life and work of Pablo Picasso.</p> <p>Can you create your own artwork in his style?</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">Maths</p>	<p>Continue to access TTRockstars a little and often to support with the learning of your times tables.</p> <p>Have you shared the timetables songs we have been learning with someone at home? Don't forget to ask permission before going online to access them.</p> <p>Can you use your knowledge of the times tables to divide and share</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Music</p>	<p>Research a composer – what do you like about their music? How does their music make you feel? What does it make you think of?</p>

	<p>equally? Ask someone at home to write you a few division questions to answer. Remember that you can draw your groups and share 'dots' to support you.</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>Science</p>	<p>Take a look outside, what habitats can you see there? What living creatures are there in thar habitat? Draw a diagram of the habitat and label it.</p>	 <p>Geography</p>	<p>Research the deserts of the world, can you locate them on a world map.</p> <p>Choose one – what can you tell me about it?</p>

PE

PE for the Finches Class will be on a Wednesday afternoon this half term, please make sure that you have an indoor PE kit consisting of black shorts/leggings and a white t-shirt (no football kits please). Children will also need their PE pumps.

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. Swimming will run through until 22nd March when we will finish for the year. 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.

We will also be reintroducing our 'Reading Suitcase' this half term. This is an opportunity for the children to put away their school reading books for the night, curl up with Paddington Bear and share our suitcase book with you at home. Don't forget to write a little note to tell us about Paddington's visit to your house and what you enjoyed about the story.

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. Please contact the office about milk if you wish for your child to receive this daily.