

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school and best wishes for 2010.

A big congratulations to all our pupils. They excelled themselves during our Christmas Concert. We are very proud of each and every one of them. A special thank you to all parents and extended family for helping out with costumes and your continuous support throughout the production. Note that a DVD of the Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert is available at a cost of £10. Please complete and return the slip to the school secretary on or before Friday 15th January with the money enclosed. We would like to remind everyone about the importance of wearing school uniform. It is recommended that children also bring a coat each day as they will be outside, weather permitting.

Curriculum Content:

Numeracy – Pupils will continue with multiplication of TU and HTU using 2-10 times tables. Pupils will experience a range of problem solving activities related to multiplication facts. They will be introduced to the language of problem solving and taught how to break down a question using the Step by Step Problem Solving Guide. Topic work will be concerned with Area. Pupils will be finding the area by counting squares of regular and irregular shapes. They will be introduced to cm² and will be calculating the area by measuring length x breadth.

Language and Literacy – Pupils will continue to develop their language and literacy skills through a whole class experience and within groups. They will be identifying and using adverbs, apostrophes and suffixes from written texts. Written work will be related to the theme of Winter using both poetry and story. Pupils will start reading their new class novel – Danny the Champion of the World by Roald Dahl.

The World Around Us – The theme for this term is Ireland. Pupils will be made aware of the origins and traditions of Irish Culture and how it has changed over time. They will research the goods which are imported to and exported from Ireland. They will compare and contrast urban and rural lifestyles.

Religion - The Alive 0-5 programme will introduce the story of Abraham and Sarah. They will also learn about the life of Moses and the story of the burning bush.

P.D.M.U – Pupils will learn about body balance and the importance of having a healthy lifestyle.

P.E – This term Year 5 will be travelling to the Meadowbank Arena once per fortnight to participate in the “Fit for Life” programme. Details will follow shortly.

The Arts – Pupils will be using a variety of Art materials to create Winter scenes. Drama will be covered through Alive O-5 – Abraham and Sarah.

Important dates to note:

Tuesday 19th January: Sean O’Neill from the fire service will be visiting all year 5 classes to talk about fire safety.

Wednesday 3rd February and Thursday 4th February: School photographer

Please continue to check the school web site: **www.holyfamily-ps.org.uk**

A copy of this newsletter is also available on the web site. It can be found under curriculum – Year 5.

Mrs. B. Mc Guckin

Mrs. M.R. Hasson

Mr. A. Moran