Religion: The story of our Parish  
Advent to Christmas  
If any parents belong to a group within the parish (ministry) that reaches out to help and serve others and would like to give a talk to the class about their work please let us know. We would greatly appreciate your time.

English: Literacy block includes group and whole class lessons

Writing: Children learn and use the correct structure and grammatical features of a variety of text types including narratives and factual recounts. This involves building the field, modelling text types, joint constructions and finally individual writing. A big focus is upon the use of creative devices. The children are enjoying a version of The Odyssey and writing creatively.

Spelling: Children have an individual list, related to their own particular needs, chosen from sound groups, Holy Family High Frequency Word Lists, Key Learning Areas and extension words where applicable. Spelling words will be studied using activities during class and followed up for homework. It is of utmost importance that the children set aside time at home to study, learn and practise their 10 words each week.

Reading: Reading Strategies covering a variety of literary text types to strengthen reading skills according to individual needs. Children will also take part in guided reading groups using suitable magazines and books to provide challenge, interest and enjoyment at the various stages of reading. Reading material relevant to HSIE (Neighbouring Countries) and Science Heating Up also form the basis of reading activities this term. The children are asked to read each night as part of their homework task.

Handwriting: Formal handwriting lessons using, “Targeting Handwriting 3.” The children are continuing to learn cursive writing and ‘joins’. Encourage your child to use joined writing to improve fluency, shape, size and slope of letters especially during homework.

Mathematics:  
This term our focus is upon patterns and algebra, measurement, continuing to develop addition and subtraction strategies, mental computation, multiplication and division skills, problem solving, 2D space, chance and data. Children always benefit from:

- Opportunities to read the time at home, use timetables, perform money transactions, estimate distance, time of arrival / departure in everyday life.
- adults modelling correct terminology
- being aware of everyday fractions /percentages in shops, newspapers, bill boards...
Science & Technology: Melting Moments- A Primary connections unit.

H.S.I.E. What can we learn from our neighbouring countries?

P.D Health: Road Safety

Creative Art: Art styles and forms from our neighbouring countries followed by Christmas art and craft. The students will be writing their own Holy family folktales with a bucket filling message and making papier mache puppets. These plays will be performed to Kindergarten.

Specialist Classes:
- Physical Education: (Ms Camden). The children wear their sports uniform on Wednesdays and Thursdays for Dance Fever
- Music/Drama : (Mrs Brigid McNally) Wednesdays
- Library visit: –Both classes borrow every Tuesday. Ask your child about the books they have chosen and note what they are reading. Be aware when your child is not borrowing or reading. Share their pleasure and ensure your child has a library bag / pillowslip.

Homework is to be handed in on Thursday so that we can correct and hand out again on Friday. It includes a variety of Key Learning Areas. Children should always learn and know the meaning of their spelling words. Occasionally some children may have to finish off tasks not completed during class time. Please encourage your child to use entry and exit flicks and as the term progresses joined writing. Regular practice will ensure a smooth changeover to ‘running writing’. It is expected that children spend at least 20 minutes reading for leisure each night. Thank you for the terrific effort last term.

General Business - Reminder

- Children need a hat every day.
- Regular checking of your child’s hair is recommended for head lice
- Children will need a tee-shirt or art smock.

We look forward to a happy and productive Term 4.

Justin Browne and Carmel Hogan