



Knights Templar Community Church School and Nursery

Work at it with all your heart

Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Weaver, BA Hons QTS

September 2026

Dear Mandela Class Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. It has been wonderful to get to know the children of Mandela Class this week. They have been super at settling into their new class routines. They are a very enthusiastic, creative and helpful class and I am really looking forward to teaching them this year.

PE

Mandela Class have PE on **Friday mornings**. Please send your child to school **wearing their PE kit**. They need to wear their normal school jumper or cardigan and they can wear navy / black shorts, leggings or joggers with their PE t-shirt.

Explorers

Mandela Class will have Explorers on **Monday afternoons**. This is a session in our wonderful wildlife area at the top of the field. In KS2, they do not change their whole uniform but will need a pair of outdoor shoes (walking boots or wellies) and a waterproof coat on this day. If you have waterproof overalls, they can wear these over their clothes – but please don't feel you need to purchase this. We have a small supply of spare wellies and overalls but not a full class set. It is advised to keep items for Explorers at school in a carrier bag.

Swimming

Swimming will take place on Tuesday afternoons **after half term**.

Reading and Homework

The children will bring a **reading book and folder home every day and this must return to school the following day**. Reading is an important skill that children use throughout their lives, therefore it is essential that children in Key Stage 2 continue to read at home regularly. Reading together can take a range of forms; your child can read to you or you can share the reading of a book. Each time your child reads at home and this is signed by an adult in their diary, they get an entry into our weekly class reading raffle! We will listen to the children read regularly in school.

Children are invited to access the following platforms to support their learning:

- Times Table Rockstars;
- Spelling Frame.

Logins to access these platforms will be attached to the back cover of their Reading Folder.

Times Tables

We will be doing daily timetables practice during school time. Times Tables Rockstars will still be used and it is a fun way for the children to learn their times tables and will really increase their speed at recalling the facts. Year 4 children will be taking a statutory assessment test in their recall of the times table facts up to 12 x 12. They have a very short time to answer so pace at recalling the facts is paramount. We will also be testing the children on their recall of times tables, every other week.

Show and Tell

To help develop the speaking and listening skills of our Key Stage 2 children at Knights Templar, I will invite the children from Mandela Class to do a Show and Tell presentation once a half term. In Mandela Class, these will take place on Friday afternoons. Your child will be allocated a Friday during this half term when they will need to be ready to do their talk – please see the attached timetable. They could bring in a special object from home to talk about or they could talk about an event or activity they have enjoyed – bringing in a photo, attaching it to the Mandela Google Classroom or emailing it to the school office. The talk will only need to be 2-4 minutes long and then we will invite the class to ask 3 questions about the presentation. Across the three KS2 classes, we are asking that children **don't bring in toys** from home for their show and tell.

Snacks at playtime

Unfortunately, snacks in KS2 are not provided, so children should bring their own snack with them to have at playtime. Snacks should be a piece of fruit or dried fruit.

Discovery Zone

In some afternoons, Mandela Class will be learning their topics using a child-led approach. This means that they will take ownership of their learning within the topics studied at school. To enable this to be possible, we need to collect your recyclable materials from home: kitchen roll tubes, small cardboard boxes, yoghurt pots etc. Please bring these items in as often as you collect them. Thank you in advance for your support with this. I'll send messages home when we have enough supplies or if we need a restock!

Finally, please see the attached curriculum map for an overview of the Autumn's topics. If you have any skills or knowledge related to our Topic Web and you would be willing to come in to school to share this, we would warmly welcome you.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at school. The children of Mandela Class will benefit greatly from a consistent dialogue between home and school.

I am really looking forward to the school year ahead and I hope that your child is too.

Emma Hake

Mandela Class Teacher/ Science Lead

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