



# Knights Templar Community Church School and Nursery

*Work at it with all your heart*

Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Weaver, BA Hons QTS

January 2026

Dear Gates Class Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new year. It has been a pleasure to get to back to school and work with your children. They have been fabulous at settling back into our class routines after the craziness of Christmas.

## PE

Gates Class now have PE on **Tuesday mornings**. Please send your child into school wearing their PE kit. Their school jumpers and black or navy leggings or tracksuit bottoms may be worn when the weather is cold. Please do not send your child in wearing non-school jumpers on these days.

## Explorers

Gates Class will have Explorers on **Tuesday afternoons**. They will 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 they have waterproof trousers or overalls, they may wear these for Explorers.

## Swimming

Swimming will take place on Thursday afternoons but not until **after half term**.

## Homework

Homework will be set every Friday on the Gates Class Google Classroom. The tasks are to be completed online by the following Friday and will include:

- 10 minutes on TTRS;
- A spelling sheet will be sent home on Fridays. One column should be completed each day of the school week. Please return it to class on Fridays. There will be an optional online spelling activity using Spelling Frame;
- There will also be an optional activity from the National Trust's **50 Things to do before you're 11 ¾**. These are outdoor activities that you could complete as a family. Your child could bring in a photo of the activity or talk about it during their Show and Tell slot.

If children are not completing their homework at home, we will ask them to complete it during TaP time on Friday afternoons. TaP time is an additional play time for Key Stage 2 on Friday afternoons.

## Reading

Please continue to take part in daily home reading. The children will bring a **reading book and home link journal home every day**. We will also listen to the children read regularly at school. Reading together can take a range of forms. Your child can read to you or you can share the reading of a book. Equally valuable is to continue to

read to your child. However you read with your child, please record it in their Reading Record so we can see how much reading your child does at home. Also, every time they read, they will earn a Reading Raffle ticket!

### **Times Tables**

We will be doing daily timetables practice during school time. TT Rockstars will still be used as it is a fun way for the children to learn their times tables. 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 Gates Class to do a Show and Tell presentation once a half term. In Gates 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 presentation – 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 or attaching it to the Google Classroom. 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. **We are asking that children do not bring in toys from home for their show and tell.**

### **Discovery Zone**

Most afternoons, Gates 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, cereal boxes etc. Please bring these items in as often as you collect them. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Finally, please see the attached curriculum map for an overview of the Spring'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.

Also, if you have any questions, **please do not hesitate to contact me at school.** The children of Gates Class will benefit greatly from a consistent dialogue between home and school.

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

Katherine Larkins  
Gates Class Teacher / KS2 Lead / English Lead  
Knights Templar Community Church School