

Reception: Spring Term Curriculum Letter


The aim of this newsletter is to tell you a little bit more about what is happening in our class over the next term. We hope this will give you a flavour of our curriculum and all the fun learning in our class.



St James Reception Newsletter. Spring term.

Our topic this term is **Celebrations** and **Growing**

The children are taught all seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. The children are taught through a range of different experiences, some of these are child initiated, adult initiated or adult led. At St. James we believe that through carefully planned play opportunities, young children learn, grow and have fun. This helps them understand the world and to develop socially and emotionally.

<p>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p> <p>This term we will be continuing building relationships, managing self, and managing/regulating feelings. Our school values are threaded through the whole curriculum. This term we will be focusing on perseverance and trust to keep on trying when an activity is difficult and to focus for extended periods of time at an activity during child-initiated learning.</p> <p>The children are encouraged to continue to be interested, excited and motivated to learn independently and also with adult input and direction.</p> <p>We explore PSHE through role play in our class bakery and through our topics and core books.</p>	<p>Phonics</p> <p>The Little Wandle Letters and Sounds phonics scheme will continue with children learning new sounds and consolidating previous learning. The children will begin/continue to blend and write simple words and sentences, using their knowledge of phonics. We have been encouraging children to form each letter correctly in their writing and this will continue to be reinforced. The new sounds which are learned each week will be sent home for children to practise with parents/carers to support them. We will apply our learning in 3x Guided reading sessions a week.</p>  <p>https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/</p> <p>This page will give you some advice and support in how to help your child with their phonics</p>	<p>Communication and Language</p> <p>We will encourage the children to use whole body listening follow instructions with two or more parts.</p> <p>This term we will be building on our listening attention and understanding by waiting and taking turns in conversation and responding to what we have heard by saying what I think and asking questions.</p> <p>When speaking we will be starting to share ideas in small groups and explaining events that have already happened in more detail. We will be developing our ability to talk in full sentences using a range of vocabulary and starting to use past, future and present tenses. We will be exploring a range of quality stories and non-fiction books and share our ideas about them.</p>
<p>Literacy</p> <p>Children will discover a range of rich core books and learn about elements of stories, such as main characters and story settings. We will explore questions about where, who, why and how and continue to develop our comprehension through learning to 'read' the pictures.</p> <p>We will encourage children to respond to stories, rhymes and poems and make up their own stories, songs, rhymes and poems.</p> <p>They will take part in carefully planned weekly writing activities linked to their experiences, meaningful and with a purpose: about their family and</p>	<p>Understanding the World</p> <p>Understanding of the World covers many areas of the curriculum, such as; science, history, geography and R.E, and we will frequently visit St James' church for worship and different services. The areas of the curriculum will be covered through the children's own interests and through our Core Book. We will venture out into our local environment and plan activities around the things they've seen to enhance and further their understanding and learning. Throughout the term children will be encouraged to talk about the past changes that have happened in their own families lifetime and how it differs from today. We will begin to talk about the differences of lives in other countries and begin to look at information on maps.</p>	<p>continue to experience using different creative materials and tools which are available for them to access independently in our creative area. They will also use their imagination and experiences in different role-play scenarios using masks and puppets they will make for the characters in their stories. The children are very good at exploring colour, texture and shape in two dimensions, but now we will be encouraging them to be creative using three dimensions through designing models with a purpose. Please collect and bring in boxes, bottles, tubes, etc as we will use these for our junk modelling.</p>

friendships, invitations to a party, shopping lists and thankyou letters

In this way their writing skills will be reinforced and extended. Reception are taught to read and decode words through daily phonics. There will also be opportunities for the children to apply their knowledge of reading and writing independently through

purposeful role play in our indoor and outdoor area. Our role

play area outdoors is currently a Bakery and a restaurant. The children will take orders, write invitations, and write birthday cards.

The children are also visiting the local library each half term, where they can choose a book to bring back to school



Maths

We will continue have a deep and secure understanding of numbers to 10 and we will be beginning to explore number bonds to 5 and 10.



We will learn to recognise and order numbers up to 20 and beyond.

We will look at patterns in number, such as one more/one less and doubling. All Maths activities are delivered through fun and interactive activities.

There will be opportunities to explore measuring length, continuing to develop comparative language of height, weight and capacity. Pattern and shape will also be developed with an introduction to 3D Shape which is linked to our junk modelling in the creative area.

Here are some links to online maths activities:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/teddy-numbers>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/helicopter-rescue>

The children are also going to be participating in a weekly music and singing lesson with a company called 'song sack' where they will be learning lots on new songs and enjoy singing together.



Physical Development

In outdoor PE the children will take part in different ball skills this term, ensuring control and accuracy. In indoor PE the children will begin to use the apparatus in gymnastics.

Children will begin to understand the changes that happen to our bodies when we exercise.

Indoor PE will take place on **Thursday** and outdoor PE is on **Friday**. **Please ensure the children have their PE kit in school.**

Children will continue to develop their fine motor skills through a range of activities including creative activities, cutting, sticking, painting, modelling.

Activities you can do out of school to support your child

- Read to them daily and talk about the story and ask them questions about what you've read.
- Practise the phonic sounds that have been taught and work through their online reading books and write comments in their reading logs.
- Practise writing their name forming each letter correctly.
- If appropriate practise writing simple sentences. Encourage them to say the sentence first. E.g I went to the park. Use a capital letter at the beginning, spaces between words and a full stop at the end of the sentence.
- Count with them; sing counting songs, count objects at home, talk to them about time and the days of the week.
- Begin to look at number bonds to 5. E.g 1 and 4, 2 and 3, 3 and 2, 4 and 1, 5 and 0.
- Recognise and write numbers up to 10 and beyond if appropriate.
- Talk to the children about their day at school, who are their friends, what they did etc as this encourages social interaction and explanation

Towards the end of this term the children will be assessed against the Early Learning Goals (ELG). These can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1024319/Early_years_foundation_stage_profile_handbook_2022.pdf

The outcomes of these assessments will be communicated to you in their end of year report. Children are assessed to be working towards each ELG or to be working at. Please contact me via the school office, if you have any questions or queries regarding this.

Here's to a wonderful term together, if you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to me, Mrs Hutchinson, Caroline and Miss S.