

# St Eugene de Mazenod Catholic Primary School

## Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Reception class

What your child will be learning about during spring term  
and how you can help at home

### Communication, language and literacy

This term we will continue to use the Little Wandle phonics programme to develop reading, writing and spelling skills. The children will continue to work on recognising sounds and writing these correctly. During adult focused activities the children will be encouraged to think of sentences and record these with support. They will also have opportunities to engage in independent writing activities throughout the day. Your child will be learning to read high frequency words by sight.

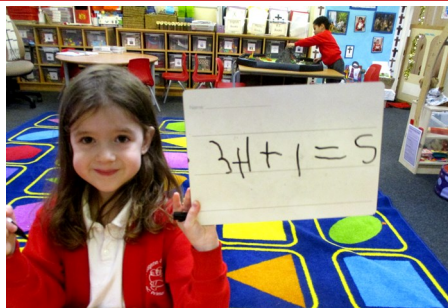
#### Things to do at home...

Engage your child in conversations where they answer who, what and why questions. Read your child's phonic books with them every day for at least 10 minutes. Practise and praise your child for reading the 45 high frequency words by sight. Reading is the single most important thing you can do to help your child's development.

#### For phonics pronunciation please see the Little Wandle parents section

<https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Play phonics games with your child (e.g guessing the first sound in words, writing sounds in simple words, looking for sounds they know in story books.) Play games such as 'I Spy..' and sing favourite songs and nursery rhymes.



### Mathematics

#### Number

The children will be learning to count and sequence numbers from 0-10 and beyond. We will compare numbers, making pairs and continue adding and subtracting numbers. We will begin recording quantities, reading and writing addition sentences. We will say what number is one more and one less than a number and learn to share out objects equally. We will continue to practise writing our numbers using the correct formation.

#### Things to do at home...

Sing number rhymes e.g. Ten Green Bottles or Five Little Speckled Frogs with your child and practise counting numbers to 10 and beyond. Find numbers around the environment with your child (e.g. bus numbers, door numbers, TV channel numbers and ask them what is one more than or one less than).

**Measuring:** We will be measuring and comparing the size and weight of different sized objects. We will continue to measure and compare the height of objects to see which is the tallest or shortest. We will also be learning about time and daily routines.

#### Things to do at home...

Find things that are big, bigger, biggest or short, shorter, shortest. Talk to your child and show them cups that are full, empty, nearly full, nearly empty, and half full —you could have a teddy bears picnic.

**Shapes:** Practise recognising and naming a variety of 2D shapes and talk about how many straight or curved sides each shape has. The children will work on making and continuing 2D and 3D patterns with repeated colours, shapes or sizes.

**Things to do at home...**

Can your child spot shapes when out and about. (What shape is the wheel on a car?, their favourite book?, an ice cream cone?)

## Religious Education

**Galilee to Jerusalem—** In the first half term, the children will be learning that Jesus was born for everyone and how we can show love to others, just as Jesus did. They will explore Bible stories including the visit of the Magi (Wise Men/Kings), Jesus blessing the children, and the feeding of the 5,000. Through these stories, the children will learn about kindness, generosity, and caring for others. They will also learn that the *Glory Be* is a special prayer used to praise God.

**Desert to Garden—** In the second half of the term, the children will learn that Lent is a special time when Christians think about how they can care for others. They will explore the events of Holy Week and learn that Jesus died on the cross on Good Friday. The children will also learn that God, Jesus' Father, gave him new life, and that Jesus rose again. This is why Christians celebrate Easter as a joyful time.

## Personal, Social, and Emotional development

Children will continue to learn about right and wrong and will be encouraged to reflect upon the consequences of their actions. They will be learning about the importance of friendship and what makes a good friend. The children will also be focusing on ways of keeping healthy and safe by making good choices.

## Art

We will be focusing on painting skills and print making. The children will learn about different artists and use a variety of techniques to create unique work. Children will continue role play activities through use of drama, puppets, small world play, dressing up and activities in the role play area.

**Things to do at home...**

Practise drawing and painting using a variety of resources e.g. vegetables for printing.



## Physical Development

The children will be focusing on gymnastics this term. They will learn to develop their overall body strength. They will work on balancing and moving in a variety of ways. They will work as part of a pair and a small group to create routines involving balance and movement.

The children will develop their fine motor skills with activities such as threading, modelling and using tools throughout the learning environment.

## Understanding the world

This term children will be studying science. Our first class topic will be 'Underwater'. During this topic we will learn about underwater environments, under the sea, in rivers and ponds. The children will learn about both small and large underwater creatures.

During our 'Growing' topic next half term the children will have the opportunity to learn about different parts of plants and what they need to grow. The children will talk about their own experiences and favourite fruit and vegetables. They will begin to notice different flowers and plants that grow within the environment as well as having the opportunity to grow their own seeds and plants.

## How can I help at home?

- ◆ Encourage your child to look at and share a variety of books. Ask them to talk about what is happening in the pictures and see if they can tell the story.
- ◆ Encourage them to look around them and talk about what they see and hear. This could be on the way to school, in the park, or on a shopping trip.
- ◆ Listen to your child read and ask them questions about the text to help their understanding, e.g. *Why did that happen? Who said that?* Encourage your child to sound out words they are unable to read by sight (for example, c – a – t makes cat).
- ◆ Talk to your child about their family and cultural background. For example, food, clothing and language.
- ◆ Encourage your child's interest in coins by asking them to 'pay' for items using pennies. When washing up, count items out of the sink and ask your child to help you.
- ◆ Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework. Your child will receive homework once a week (after half term). Help them to be organised with their time so that their homework is handed in on time.
- ◆ Allow your child to get themselves dressed and undressed. Encourage them to look smart for school, for example, tucking their polo shirt in and making sure their collars are tidy.

### Help your child to be organised:

- ◆ Have you got your **book bag**? Your book bag needs to be in school **every day**.
- ◆ Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- ◆ Have you completed your **homework**? Homework should be handed in by **Wednesday**.

