St Eugene's Catholic Primary School

Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Reception

What your child will be learning about this autumn term and how you can help at home

Literacy

This term, Reception will be taught **reading skills** (including comprehension skills), **writing and spelling skills** and they will be exposed to a variety of different text types. So that they become fluent readers as soon as possible, Reception will take part in **daily Phonics lessons** using the **Little Wandle** phonics programme, where the children will be taught phonic sounds and read phonic-based books at the appropriate level of difficulty. After half term, the children will also have daily reading lessons in a small group to develop their confidence and skill at reading.

Reception will take part in daily '**Story Time**' sessions where the teacher reads a story aloud to the class, modelling reading with expression and enjoyment, and helping to foster a love of reading. In the first half of term, we will be focusing on reading stories, poetry and non-fiction books about ***Ourselves*** and reading the following texts: *Owl Babies; My 5 Senses; Once There Were Giants; Let's Build a House; and Funny Bones*. In the second half of term, we will be focusing on stories, poetry and non-fiction books about ***Celebrations and Festivals*** and reading the following texts: *Fireworks Poems; Kipper's Birthday; Rama and Sita; The Story of Diwali*; *The Nativity Story;* and other Christmas stories.

In the first half of the Autumn Term, the children will take home **2 sharing books** each week. **A sharing book** is a book from the class library that the child has chosen themselves, to share with an adult. At the start of the second half of the Autumn Term, once the children have completed their initial **phonics lessons,** the children will also start bringing home **1 phonic-based book** to read (linked to their daily Phonics and Reading Practice lessons.)

During an adult directed writing activity, the children will produce 1 piece of writing per week, linked to the book of the week, with a focus on the alphabet and letter formation; mark making; and emergent writing.

Things to do at home...

Please **read with your child** for 15 minutes every evening. It is the single most important thing that you can do to help them educationally. **Practise the sounds at home:** Use the following link, which will take you to a useful video about how to pronounce the phonics sounds correctly: **Youtube: Little Wandle Phonics Pronunciation Guide https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZtjFIvA_fs**

Play games such as 'I Spy…' and **sing favourite songs** and **nursery rhymes**.

Start practising the first **10 High Frequency Words.**

Mathematics:

This term, Reception will be learning the following:

Number:

Match and Sort / Compare Amounts

Finding and matching objects which are the same and different; sorting collections of objects into sets based on colour, size or shape, and sorting the same collection of objects in different ways. Once the children can confidently sort collections into sets, they will learn that these sets can be compared and ordered, e.g. according to their size, mass or capacity.

1, 2 and 3 / 4 and 5 / One More and One Less

Representing and comparing 1,2 and 3, and learning that these numbers are made up of smaller numbers; counting on and back to 4 and 5, learning to see how many objects there are without counting up to 4 or 5 objects; and exploring *one more* and *one less*.

Measure, Shape and Spatial Thinking:

Make Simple Patterns

Copying, continuing and creating their own simple, repeating patterns e.g. circle, square, circle.

Circles and Triangles

Learning that circles have one curved side and triangles have 3 straight sides; recognising these shapes on everyday items in the classroom and outside; and building their own circles and triangles.

Shapes with 4 Sides

Learning that squares and rectangles have 4 straight sides and 4 corners; recognising these shapes on everyday items in the classroom and outside; and building their own squares and rectangles.

Things to do at home…

Go on a shape hunt in the local area. Where can you see circles, triangles & 4-sided shapes on the surface of everyday objects?

Positional Language

Reception will learn to use positional language to describe how items are positioned in relation to other items, e.g. *behind; next to; beside.*

Understanding the World

This term, the children will be learning about **Ourselves** and **Celebrations and Festivals.**

During the first half of term, the children will learn about **ourselves** and, specifically, changes over time to their family and themselves through creating a timeline and family tree. The children will be learning to describe similarities and differences between themselves and others. Reception will also complete an investigation to understand their senses: touch, sight, smell, taste and sound and will be learning to identify and match their senses to the correct body part. The children will also be learning to identify foods important for a healthy diet and ways to stay healthy and active. Reception will also be learning to understand and know where our school is and to identify people who help us.

Things to do at home…

Talk to your child about who keeps them safe in school and outside school: *Who keeps you safe in school? Who helps us stay safe outside school?* Look at family photographs and talk to your child about members of your family and their relationship to your child, e.g. *grandparents, cousins, uncles, aunts,* etc.

During the second half of the term, the children will learn about **Celebrations and Festivals**. The children will be learning to talk about past and present events in our lives and how we celebrate them, e.g. Bonfire Night, birthdays, Diwali and Christmas.

Things to do at home…

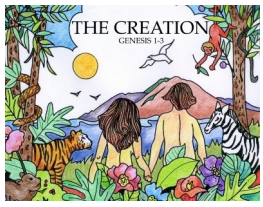
Discuss with your child how you celebrate their birthday, talking about celebrating with friends and family, eating special food, wearing special clothes etc.

Physical Development

Reception children need to bring in PE kits, including suitable plain black trainers or plimsoles. The children will be learning to move energetically, to demonstrate strength, balance and co-ordination and to negotiate space and obstacles safely during **gymnastics** and **dance**.

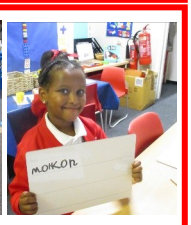
Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, the children will be introduced to our school **Golden Rules** and they will learn about the reasons for rules and routines in school and the classroom. The children will also be learning to develop positive relationships with adults and with peers: they will be learning to work and play co-operatively; to take turns and share with others; to make friends; and they will also learn how to deal with conflict.







Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be using their creative skills to focus on **painting, drawing** and **collage**. The children will be learning to mix paint to create a desired colour. They will also be learning to draw a detailed self-portrait. Reception will also be learning to make a picture of a piece of fruit using pastels, to create a firework crayon etching and to draw rangoli patterns.

Computing

Reception will be learning about online safety this term.

Things to do at home…

Here is a website that you can access at home. **http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/** This is a fun website full of literacy and numeracy games, interactive games, online books and comics covering a number of learning areas.

RE: Creation and Covenant/Prophesy and Promise

This term, children in Reception will hear the creation story and learn that God made them and the world we live in. They will consider ways they can look after themselves and the world. By the end of the unit, all children will know that they are invited to be part of God's family and are welcomed by him. In the second half term the children will learn about the story of Jesus' birth, called the Nativity. They will learn about Mary saying, "Yes" to God's messenger the Angel Gabriel; how Mary and Joseph travelled to Bethlehem for the very first Christmas and who visited the baby. We will celebrate this very special story with a Nativity show along with other children from Key Stage 1.

Things to do at home…

Please read: God created the world and said, 'Indeed it is very good' (Genesis 1:31). The whole of Creation shows God love for us (Laudato Si' 84–88) You could make a picture or collage showing your favourite parts of our world e.g. underwater creatures or flowers and trees. Read together: The Nativity (Lk 2: 4-7). Draw a picture of the shepherds, the Wise Men or baby Jesus in the manger. Make a Christmas card to share a special message with someone that you love.

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** (homework starts in the second half term)

