

Welcome to Reception

Please talk to your child about the topics overleaf and encourage them to find out more. If you have any books, artefacts or can offer your own knowledge in an area connected to the topic that would be lovely.

Phonics: The children are learning a new sound each day. Please keep practising writing them, encourage your child to say the mnemonic as they write. It is important that they are using 'pure' sounds, if you are unsure of any sound, please come and ask. The children will begin to put these sounds together to write words which they will spell phonetically. Please accept all efforts without correcting spellings and give them lots of praise. They will begin to bring home spellings later in the year. We use Freddie Fingers, Sammy Spaceman, Bertie Bus and (later in the year) Captain Capital to help the children with writing. (FF - segmenting and blending sounds, SS - spaces between words, BB - writing/reading left to right)

Pencil grip: It is important that they form a good grip. If they are not holding it correctly, remind them to make a Woody Woodpecker and put the pencil in the correct position. Use every opportunity to encourage writing, shopping lists, cards....

ORT books and reading diaries: Please send these in every day. They will be changed as often as possible. Please do not put water bottles in book bags as they can leak and ruin the books. **Story books:** Your child will learn to read and write more quickly if they hear stories read to them. They will choose a story book to bring home to share with you.

Key words: These are common words which the children will read and write frequently. The children learn them by sight rather than sounding them out. Please cut up and use the words that your child brings home. You can flashcard them, play games with them and stick up the tricky ones around the house. Children learn words quickly if they do a little every day.

Maths: You will receive Maths Challenges on Fridays. These are open ended and designed to encourage lots of talk about numbers and maths concepts. You do not need to return the sheet but you could take a photo of them doing the challenge for their Learning Journal.

Class Pets: They will each come home with your child once during the year. Please encourage your child to draw pictures and write about their adventures.

Workshop: We always need: boxes, paper, card, clean plastic pots, magazines....for making models in the workshop. (No plastic bottles thank you.)

Labels: Please label all uniform, we will then be able to find and return items that get lost.

Dates: Tea Party Thurs 27th Sept 1.20 pm. Please send in a change of clothes, all parents welcome. Oct 11th - Harvest Festival and Opening Mass of the School Year, please send in a donation of tinned/dried food or money. December 10th 2.15pm Nativity - all welcome, you may take your children home early on this day.

We are looking forward to an exciting and busy time during your child's first term at school!

Communication and language

- Role play.
- Listen to stories and talk about what has happened/is going to happen.
- Learn rhymes and songs.
- Listen carefully to each other.
- Talk about what they have done and how they have learnt.
- Make comments and ask questions.

Physical

- Learning to use scissors accurately.
- Learning the correct pencil grip.
- Correctly forming letters.
- Moving confidently and safely, changing direction and speed.

Understanding of the world

- Naming body parts.
- Investigating their senses.
- Looking at how they have changed as they have got older.
- Finding out about our school environment and visiting the 'Secret Garden'.
- Thinking about Autumn and the changing seasons.

Autumn Term

Literacy

- Learn mnemonics for each sound.
- Segmenting sounds in words to write.
- Blending sounds in reading.
- Learn keywords for writing and reading.
- Writing simple sentences.



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- Talk about their own feelings and their experiences of being known and called by name.
- Begin to know about God who loves them and knows their name.

Expressive arts and design

- Making models in the workshop and with the construction.
- Role play.
- Learn a variety of songs.
- Portraits of self.
- Harvest songs.
- Colour mixing and painting.
- Using musical instruments.

Personal, social and emotional

- Learn the rules for the class.
- Make new friends.
- Build their confidence in new surroundings.
- Talking about our feelings and exploring the feelings of characters in stories.
- Introduce class 'pet'.

Maths

- Count objects accurately and learn number names.
- Practise writing numbers.
- Doing practical adding and taking away and begin to read and write simple sums.
- Investigate length, weight and height.
- Learn the names of 2d/3d shapes and begin to learn their properties.
- Make repeating patterns.