

Curriculum Newsletter – Reception

Spring 1 – Our Wonderful World

**Value of the term:
Respect**

Dear Families,
Welcome to the Spring term at St. John's. Here is an overview of the learning we will be covering. We hope you will be able to support your child's learning at home by reading with them and talking about the work they are doing in class.

Maths

We will continue to follow the Mastery Number planning to work on the following areas of learning:

Subitising

- Subitise within 5 focusing on die patterns.
 - Match numerals to quantities within 5.
- Counting, ordinality and cardinality.
- Counting – focus on ordinality and the 'staircase' pattern.
 - See that each number is one more than the previous number.

Composition

- Focus on 5.
- Focus on 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit'.
- Compare sets and use language of comparison: more than, fewer than, an equal number to.
- Make unequal sets equal.

English



Phonics/Reading

Before Christmas we assessed all of the children on their phonics knowledge, and they will be moving onto reading books to reflect those assessments. 'Little Wandle' will move on to teaching the children the next set of diagraphs. Each week on Tapestry we will let you know exactly which sounds we will be teaching at school and how you can support your child at home. One of the areas that many of the children have found more challenging are the 'tricky words'. Please check on the Tapestry post to reinforce these words at home.

Writing

Our focus this term is caption writing and tricky words. Children are learning to write short sentences to describe pictures and their ideas. They are practising correct letter formation, using familiar formation phrases from Little Wandle and Letter join to help them form letters neatly and confidently. Children are learning to write some of the tricky words we have taught and are becoming more independent when writing simple words using their sounds, supported by sound mats in class. Children also take part in guided writing activities, where adults support them to develop their writing step by step and build confidence.

Understanding of the World

Through our key texts, the children will be looking at different aspects of 'Our Wonderful World' from the changing seasons, the weather and how plants grow. We will be planting some different bulbs and investigating the process of freezing and melting on water.



Key texts

Penguin Small
One Snowy Night
We're Going on a Bear Hunt
The Gruffalo
Handa's Surprise
The Great Race
(Chinese New Year)



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Physical Development



In PE, children are enjoying movement and dance activities that help them move safely and confidently. They are using their imagination to show ideas and feelings through their bodies. Children are learning to link different movements together, such as stretching, jumping and turning.

In the Early Years environment, we will continue to work on fine motor skills and the development of our finger muscles to aid pencil control, letter formation and scissor skills.



Personal Social and Emotional Development

This term, we will be developing the children's independence skills such as putting their own gloves on, doing their zip or buttons up, choosing resources and putting them away.

Through our provision, we will be supporting the children to develop skills when working together e.g. creating a zoo/ working together to build a houses.

We will begin to talk about how characters in books are feeling and using our Circle times to develop listening skills



EAD

Children are exploring different ways to join materials safely, using glue, PVA and tape to create their own models and pictures. They enjoy sharing and talking about their creations. Children are using a range of tools such as pencils, pastels and chalk to make marks and pictures. They are beginning to draw more carefully by looking closely at objects.

In Music we will be exploring sounds and the different ways that we can make sounds including our voices, our bodies and using musical instruments.

Communication and Language

We have key texts, teaching sessions and continuous provision that we use to promote communication and language skills throughout the term. We will be sharing Christmas news encouraging the children to describe the events in some detail.

Throughout our topic, we will be asking different questions to find out about the world around us. We will introduce and use new vocabulary.



Notices

- Please note that PE day is Thursday. The children will come to school in the PE Kit. NO earrings on a Thursday please.
- Please remember to name everything.
- The children need **NAMED** wellington boots and waterproofs in school.
- The home reading book come home on a Wednesday and please can the books be returned to school the following Monday so that they can be changed.

