

Autumn Term Class Newsletter

Reception

A note from Mrs Humphreys and Mrs Smith...

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to our St Mary's family. The children are settling in wonderfully, they are happy and smiley coming into school and are eager to engage in all aspects of learning throughout the day! They are beginning to become familiar with the routines of the day and are already starting to show independence with these, such as hanging up their own coats on their pegs, putting reading bags in the right place, lining up and carrying their own dinner tray and being respectful when playing in the classroom by helping to tidy up after playing. The areas of provision inside and outside the classroom have been set up to link with children's interests, which we gained such a great understanding of through the Home Visits during the first week. Thank you so much for giving your time towards these, we truly believe the Home Visits have been key to helping the children settle so well. Please see below for information on the Autumn term curriculum.

Learning Theme

As a starting point for our learning throughout the Autumn term we will focus on the theme of '**This is me!**'

Our focus for the first half term 'This is me' is settling the children into St Mary's and in particular, Reception class. During this first half term, children will begin building relationships with other children and adults. Adults will carefully and consistently model routines, school rules and expectations (Be ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe) to support children with their transition to school. Time will be spent observing the children in play, to find out each child's starting points and interests. This first theme has a general "All About Me" feel. Each child's starting school book will be shared to develop an understanding of each child as an individual - their age, how they look, interests, likes and dislikes, hobbies and their family. This opening theme for the year gives children a sense of ownership and belonging and provides them with knowledge of rules, boundaries, routines and expectations to feel confident to access learning.

Personal, Social and emotional Development

We will learn to manage our own needs eg. going to the toilet, washing hands, putting coats on.

We will begin to build new relationships with the children and adults in the class.

We will become familiar with the class and school rules.

Communication and Language

We will think about how we can be good listeners and why listening is important

We will listen to stories and answer how and why questions.

We learn and use new vocabulary linked to all areas of learning.

Physical Development

We will explore different types of movement in our outdoor area- running, jumping, hopping, skipping and balancing.

We will explore lots of fine motor activities and experiences such as dough disco to develop strength in our fingers to support writing.

Literacy

Our focus story this term will be 'The Three Little Pigs' We will learn this story with actions and develop story maps.

We will listen to other stories about families and belonging 'Love makes and family' and 'All are welcome here'

Phonics

We will be starting to listen to and describe sounds and begin to hear sounds in words. We will learn to recognise letters to support with reading and writing

Maths

We will be counting forwards and backwards to 10 We will be matching, comparing and sorting sets

We will learn numbers 1-5 with a mastery approach.

We will identify and make simple patterns. We will explore measurement through length, height, capacity, weight, money and time

Understanding the world

We will talk about our families- parents, brothers/sisters/aunts/uncles/cousins/grandparents.

We will ask questions to others in the class to find out about their families- how are they the same/different to our own?

We will explore the seasonal changes of Autumn.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will draw self-portraits, looking carefully at how we are similar or different to our friends in class and including these details in our drawings

Our Role Play area will become a home corner so that children can make connections with their own home.

Other curriculum information:

-Amberswood: This term we will visit the local nature reserve- Amberswood. We will explore the different sights, smells, sounds of the woodland and notice signs of Autumn

-Skills Builder: We will be introducing our Skills Builder curriculum to the children this half term and then once the children are settled we will decide which skill to focus on first.

-RE: The two themes we will look at this term are 'I am special' and 'Harvest'

-Autumn Festivals We will learn about special days that are celebrated- Bonfire Night, Diwali and Remembrance Day

Other information:

Home Reading – At the moment children will bring home a 'sharing book' This book is for you to read to your child and for them to listen and join in with. After listening a couple of times they may then feel confident in retelling parts by themselves. We will soon be sending home reading books after a couple of weeks of embedding our phonics sessions.

Water bottles- Please only send water in your child's water bottle for school.

PE- Keep an eye out on class dojo for when PE for Reception will start. On PE days children need to come to school in their PE kits