

## Understanding the world

This term children will be studying science and religious festivals. We are covering the following topics:

1st half term: Ourselves

2nd half term: Festivals

Our first class topic will be 'Ourselves'. During this topic we will learn about each other and about our bodies. We will look at our five senses and use these to investigate. Past and present will be looked at as we talk about our lives and what we were like as babies.

Our second class topic will be 'Festivals'. We will think about festivals that we celebrate and learn about festivals celebrated in other cultures. We will learn about the Nativity story and how we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

### Food Technology:

The children will be learning about food hygiene and what foods are healthy and nutritious. Throughout the term, the children will have the opportunity to make healthy snacks.

### Technology

Children will use computers in the classroom as well as the interactive whiteboard to learn basic computer skills and to support learning in other areas. Children will also use the Bee Bots to begin to explore their programming skills.

## 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.

Talk to your child about their family and cultural background. For example, clothing, language and food.

Help your child to be organised:

- ❑ Have you got your book bag?
- ❑ Are ALL your reading books inside it?
- ❑ Have you completed your homework? Home work should be submitted by **Wednesday**.



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



## Reception Parent Information Booklet

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

Autumn 2020

## What we will be learning this term...

### Communication, language and literacy

This term we will be using the Read Write Inc. phonics programme to develop reading writing and spelling skills. The children will also learn to form letters correctly and be encouraged to use mark making for many different purposes during child-initiated play as well as in adult-led group activities. The children will practise their listening skills during class discussions and story time sessions.

**Things to do at home...** Practise the sounds children are learning at home. Read with your child every day. Continue to work with your child on writing their name, using a capital letter only for the initial letter. Here is a website with phonics activities you could try with your child:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>

### Art

The children will be exploring a range of techniques to produce 2D and 3D art. They will learn to use a variety of materials and tools effectively on a small and large scale.

**Things to do at home...** Practise drawing people at home. Encourage your child to include all parts of the body and facial features.

### Number

**Counting:** The children will be learning to use numbers up to 10 confidently. They will be encouraged to say number names in order and to count out groups

of objects.

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

Sing number rhymes 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...)

**Measuring:** We will be measuring objects to see which is the longest and shortest. We will also be learning about time and daily routines.

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

At home look around and compare objects to see which is longer and which is shorter.

**Shapes:** The children will be learning to recognise and name a variety of 2D and 3D shapes. The children will also be talking about and making their own patterns.

**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?)

### Personal, Social, and Emotional development

The children are settling into a new environment and are establishing new relationships. An emphasis will be placed on developing sharing and listening skills and an awareness of their own and others' needs. The children are also learning about school rules and behaviour.

### Physical Development

Children will take part in 30 minutes of teacher-led physical activities every day.

During these active sessions, the children will keep moving and increase their fitness levels.

All activities will be non contact and will not involve sharing of equipment. Children will wear their school and must have suitable plain black trainers or shoes with grip.

The children will participate fine motor skill activities such as threading, modelling and using tools throughout the learning environment.

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

Encourage your child to dress themselves and to use cutlery at meal times independently.

### Religious Education

**Myself:** In this topic children will talk about being part of a family. They will learn that God loves and knows each person by name. They will learn to understand that prayer is a way of talking and listening to God.

**Welcome:** The children will learn what it is to welcome and be welcomed. They will learn about Baptism and some signs and symbols. Confirmation helps us to understand the meanings of these sacraments.

**Birthdays:** In this topic the children will understand what a birthday is and talk about the experience of waiting for a birthday. They will learn about Advent: looking forward to Christmas, the birthday of Jesus.

