

## Reception Curriculum Newsletter

### Autumn Term

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to the first term of Reception, the girls have settled in so well and have made a great start to the term.



#### Communication and Language, and Literacy

The girls will be listening to lots of stories and having classroom discussions about books. They will begin asking questions and predicting what will happen next in the story.

We will begin literacy sessions in the next few weeks, once we are sure that the girls are familiar and comfortable in the classroom, and we feel they are ready for more structured whole-class teacher inputs.

We will be following the 'Read, Write, Inc.' phonics programme and will be learning new sounds and then learning how to 'blend' sounds together to make words. Our first sounds will be m, a, s, d, i and t. As soon as the girls have consistent, speedy recognition of these sounds they are able to begin blending short consonant-vowel-consonant words like 'sat', 'sit', 'mad', 'dim', 'sad' etc. From there we continue to introduce new sounds in a set order and build up their confidence blending other simple words. At this stage we do not learn letter names. We focus on the 'pure sounds' (without the 'uh') Watch the Sound Pronunciation Guide video to help you.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/find-a-book/read-write-inc-phonics--1/phonics-pure-sounds-video>

We will be starting our 'Drawing Club' sessions later this term, which develops the children's spoken language, oracy skills and mark making skills.

Each Wednesday, our Reception Children will visit the school library to choose a book to bring home and share with you. Please could you ensure that your child has their book in their reading folders every Wednesday so that they can benefit from these sessions – thank you.



## Numeracy

We will be following the White Rose Maths scheme this year. The first few weeks are set aside for getting to know the children, as described above. The early focus will be on counting and comparing groups of items up to 10, as well as counting to 20. They will also sort items and match them with others that have similarities, and there will be opportunities through independent play to share, measure, and compare.



## Understanding of the World

The children have daily opportunities for exploring both indoor and outdoor learning. Each day the children can partake in messy play, including our Mud Kitchen. The children will develop their understanding of seasons by looking for clues of Autumn. We will be exploring pumpkins and splashing in lots of muddy puddles. We will explore the world around us by listening to stories from around the world. We also explore festivals and celebrations from a variety of religions. To celebrate we often do practical, art and design or cooking activities.

## Expressive Arts and Design

The areas we are exploring offer many opportunities for art and craft during our Continuous Provision learning. This term we will be exploring the different ways to use resources such as scissors, masking tape, PVA glue and different styles of media.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term is all about children feeling happy in school and confident in their new surroundings, so we place a great deal of importance on their self-help skills, finding resources, their own drawer and peg, dressing themselves and doing up zips on winter coats. We will enjoy lots of activities to help them develop their skills of sharing and turn-taking. We will be using Ten:Ten Life to the Full, a comprehensive PSHE program for Catholic Schools. This term the student service team will be delivering the Decider Skills programme to teach children a variety of strategies to support their emotional well being.

We hope this gives you an insight to our learning this term.

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