

# Reception Class Newsletter Autumn 2023



Welcome back to school and an extra special welcome to the new members of Reception Class! It is wonderful to see the children settling in with such an enthusiasm for learning and building some lovely friendships, they really are a credit to you! We have a busy half term ahead, with lots to learn, explore and discover. Mrs Mc Fadden and Mrs Culkin are really looking forward to sharing this journey with you.

## Phonics

In phonics this half term reception will be learning the sounds that letters make. We will also be learning to read the tricky words *is*, *I* and *the*. These words are tricky because we can't use phonics to sound them out. Your child's reading book is carefully matched to help them to apply the phonics they have been learning in class. It is very important that children practise reading each night to consolidate what they have been learning in class.

We will also practise writing the letters using helpful rhymes we learn in class to make sure we form the letters correctly. There will be many opportunities to practise this skill, however practising at home would have a positive impact on your child's progression. They will use their phonics knowledge to articulate their thoughts and ideas during writing tasks.



## Literacy

As part of our main topic of 'Let's Explore' and our mini project 'Build it up', the children will have the opportunity to look at a range of books independently including 'We're going on a Bear Hunt', 'Mr Gumpy's outing', 'Busy builders, busy week', 'Big box, little box' and more.

As a whole class we will look at following books in more detail as a whole class: Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak and, What to Do with a box by Jane Yolen.

We will look at the characters in these stories through role play and using our small world resources. We will also read non-fiction texts together as we explore the different types of homes people live in both in our area and in different places around the world.



## Religion

In religion we will be following the 'Come and See' scheme of work, alongside CARITAS. During the Autumn Term Reception will be exploring what it means to be a part of a family at home, in class and in school. We will learn that we are precious to God and that He knows us all. We will be exploring the importance of the names we were given when we were born and our family name.

Later in the half term we will be learning that God loves us all very much and how we can show our love for other people.



## Expressive Art and Design (EAD)

This term, the children will have the opportunity to use a range of materials to create models of what they see from observations and through their imaginations. They will develop an understanding of how to use the most suitable materials for a task for example, building houses for the 3 little pigs.

Reception will also explore and use a variety of artistic effects, including using natural materials and loose parts to make 2D and 3D art as well as painting landscapes.

Using pretend play, the children will explore and develop the stories we have been reading, they will be provided with resources which will enable them to bring the story to life by acting out the storylines.



## Understanding of the world

This term, reception will be learning about explorers from the past and become explorers themselves! Using their senses, the children will be exploring their environment.

With magnifying glasses in hand, we will go for a walk around the school and look at the environment in more detail, this will provide the children with the opportunity to see wildlife in their habitat as well as hear the many sounds of happy, busy classrooms and within the great outdoors. The children will share stories about the type of house they live in, the area where they live and what they see when they travel to school/play outside. We will use maps and computer technology to explore some of the different types of features in our local area. There will be a lot of exploring this term!



## Maths

In maths this term we will be exploring numbers 1 to 10. We will use lots of different ways to show these numbers and find out how they are made from smaller numbers.

Noticing numbers and quantities in the environment with your child is a good way to support them in the numeracy development. The children will also be developing their understanding of matching, sorting, and comparing, they will be provided with a wide range of the same objects, allowing them to explore at a deeper level.

Also, during this half term, reception will be learning about measure (comparing size, mass and capacity) and pattern (in songs, stories, the environment and within actions).

