

Life in Reception

We are sure you are all very proud of your children following parents evening. We can't believe we have already had one half-term in Reception... time flies when you're having fun, developing and learning! This half-term is very exciting and before we know it, Christmas will be here.

We can't wait to practise singing our Christmas songs and rehearsing our Nativity. We wonder if Santa will come and visit us in Reception...?!

Welly Tuesday

Each **Tuesday**, we will be visiting our Secret Garden (weather depending). Can you please send wellies into school on this day.

PE

PE kits are to be worn every Thursday.

Mathematics

This half-term, we will look at lots of things relating to numbers 0-5. We will learn how to represent these numbers (tally charts, dice patterns etc). Also, we will look at the different ways of making these numbers (adding). For example, we will learn that 3 is made up of $3+0=3$, $2+1=3$ and $1+1+1=3$. We will learn about one more and one less.

Next, we will move onto positional language. We will use language such as **top**, **bottom**, **in between**, **next to** and **in front**.

Then, we will learn about time. We will be focusing upon day and night. We will look at different routines of the day and think about what usually happens on a morning and what usually happens on a night. We will think about what the school Nurses told us... we **MUST** brush our teeth on a morning **AND** on a night!

Phonics

So far, we have covered the following sounds:

a i m s t n p o b c g h

We will be learning brand new sounds this half term which include:

d f e v k l r u j w z ff ll ss zz

ff, ll, ss and zz are "2 letter but just one sound".

We have already learnt these high frequency words:

I is a the for

This half-term, we will be learning these high-frequency words too:

of are was all said

Literacy

We will continue to look at Meg and Mog for a couple of more weeks. We will write sentences such as 'Meg has a hat' and 'Mog is a cat'.

Then, the children will ALL innovate (change) the story. They will change the main character, where the character is going and what the character will wear. They will base their changes upon what they want to do when they are a grown up, for example, "*Once upon a time, there was a pilot called Chloe who needed to get ready to go to the airport. She got out of bed and put on her trousers, shirt, jacket and her pilot hat*".

Very soon, our focus will be the Nativity story! We will be using BSL to help us re-tell the Christmas story. We will complete different activities all about the Nativity.

Communication and Language

We are continuing to develop our communication and language skills daily. We will be focusing upon learning new vocabulary and being able to use the new vocabulary during discussions and play. This will support the children to have a conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teachers and peers.

Understanding the World

Our unit this half term is 'Magnificent Me'. During this unit of work, the children will be introduced to a map of St Aloysius and will be made aware of the infant and junior school sites. The children will explore their classroom environment and compare it with their buddy's classroom in the junior school. We will go for a walk around the perimeter of both schools and look for Argyle Street and Makendon Street as well as searching for different types of houses. When we are on the junior school field, we may hear a metro go by! Using our infant school environment, we will explore the Secret Garden looking closely at the different features which we will then identify by creating our own maps.

After learning the name of the school street, each Reception class will write letter to each other to see if the postal worker can deliver our mail. We will also compare different styles of housing around Hebburn. We will be asking the children to learn their address, particularly the first line of their address... We can't wait to look for our houses on Google maps! At the end of our unit, we will work in colour groups to create a video guide of our infant school.

We will also learn about Diwali, Remembrance Day, Anti-bullying week, Bonfire Night and Children in Need.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Each day, we will 'check in' with our emotions using our feelings display in the classroom. The children will have the opportunity to let us know how they are feeling and why.

We will be focusing lots on resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge. We know that sometimes, children don't like to get things wrong, for instance, when writing the sounds in phonics. We will be talking lots about it being ok to make a mistake and will remind the children that we will always be SO proud of them for trying their best and 'having a go'.

Expressive Arts and Design

We have really enjoyed our weekly music lessons. Outdoors, we have developed our 'stage' area. The children will be able to perform/dance/sing with a range of props, costumes and materials. The children will also have the opportunity to request songs to be played for their performance via our Reception music speaker.

R.E

We will continue looking at our unit 'Welcome'. We will look at different ways of welcoming people. We will think about how we are welcomed into the Church family by re-enacting a Baptism.

After this unit, we will look at another faith, Judaism. We will focus upon Hannukah and why it is celebrated by many Jewish people.

It is a very important time in the Church year as we enter advent and prepare for the coming of Jesus. We will look at another topic called 'Birthday' to celebrate advent.

Key Dates & Reminders

Key Dates:

Non-uniform Day (Children In Need): Friday 15th November

CAFOD Movie Night: Wednesday 20th November

Non-uniform Day (Christmas Fayre): Wednesday 27th November

Nativity: Wednesday 11th December (LMc/AC)

Friday 13th December (CC)

Christmas Jumper/Dinner Day: Tuesday 17th December

Christmas Party Day: Wednesday 18th December

Reminders:

Please ensure **ALL** of your child's clothing is labelled **INCLUDING** hats, scarves, gloves and PE hoodies.

Thank you for all your support! ☺