

13<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

**Welcome to Reception!** Our topics this term are ‘Myself’ and ‘Seasons’. We will be teaching according to the Early Learning Goals for children aged 4-5.

**Personal, Emotional and Social Development.**

Children will be learning acceptable school behaviour such as lining up, taking turns, sharing, listening, and putting up hands, as well as showing care and concern for others. We will follow the rules of ‘kind hands, kind words, kind feet’.

**Communication and Language & Literacy**

We will be introducing the ‘Letters and Sounds’ scheme to teach all the sounds needed to read and write in English. **This will begin at the start of October.** Homework sheets will be sent home for children to complete as they learn the new sounds. **Please encourage your child to complete each piece of homework, as it is important consolidation of what is being taught in class.** In addition, children will also be provided with a sound book to practise letter formation, as well as recording words and pictures beginning with the sounds they are learning each week.

We will:

- Hear and identify the sound in words.
- Practise holding the pencil using the correct grip with the other hand on the table to encourage control.
- Develop listening skills to be able to follow instructions and practice listening to others talk.
- Write names (using capitals for the first letter only e.g. John **not** JOHN) and begin to use Kingston letter formation for lower case letters.
- Read stories as a class and individually, encouraging children to find initial sounds and discuss the pictures.

We will begin sending home reading books in the next few weeks. Please read with your child nightly. Reading books and reading records will be sent home in due course. **We would like to remind you that there will be a £5 charge for any mislaid books. Unless otherwise informed, books not returned to school after a two-week period will be considered lost.**

**Mathematics**

From October we will be following the Maths Mastery scheme, which enhances understanding and enjoyment of maths.

We will:

- Start to classify, match, compare and order sets/objects.
- Recognise, describe and copy colour and size patterns.
- Look at numbers up to 10. Place them in order. Find one more and one less than a given number.
- Begin to explore addition and subtraction within 10.
- Explore everyday shapes and objects (3D) and use mathematical language to describe them.
- Use everyday language to talk about size, weight and capacity. Start to compare and order objects.
- Begin estimating numbers and counting to check our estimate.

- To explore and discuss time, season, days of the week and daily events.
- Use everyday language to talk about and sequence daily events.

### **Understanding Our World**

We will be exploring our topics 'Myself' and 'Seasons'. We will be discussing what makes us special as individuals and answering the question, 'Who am I?' We will be also be looking at people who help us in our community and answering the question, 'Why are the leaves changing colour?'

We will:

- Develop the ability to observe and describe accurately.
- Increase topic vocabulary.
- Talk about what we have done and how to improve it.
- Use and understand these words: yesterday, today, tomorrow, last week, next week, past.
- Focus on family and the changes in our environment.

### **ICT**

We will be developing our awareness of ICT software through the use of the interactive whiteboard, cameras, Beebots and iPads.

### **Religion**

Our RE topics for the Autumn term are 'Myself' 'St Charles', 'Welcome' and 'Birthday'. In addition the children will also be learning school prayers as well as daily prayers such as Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be and how to make the sign of the cross. During the week we will have collective worship as a school or as a class.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

Creative activities will be linked to our topic and include art, music and role play. Music will be taught on a weekly basis. Children will also have the opportunity to explore different media such as clay, play dough and paint.

### **Physical Development**

PE will take place every **Thursday**. **Children will need to come in wearing their PE kit.** Please ensure they have the correct attire. Please continue teaching your child how to dress and undress themselves.

We will also be developing fine motor control including correct pencil grip and how to use the scissors safely.

In this letter we have set out guidelines as to what we will be teaching. However, it is important to know that each child will be taught according to their needs/ability/stage of development.

We would also like to inform parents and carers that in Reception children's birthdays are acknowledged but we do not hold any birthday parties. As a school we have gained the healthy eating award and therefore do not give the children any party bags that contain sweets or cake. If you would like the class to celebrate your child's birthday further you may bring a book to be shared.

Please remember that your child needs a clear water bottle in school. Please also ensure that it is named. In Reception and Key Stage One the children are provided with a piece of fruit at play time. However, your child can bring fruit from home if he/she chooses to. **Please be aware that yogurts and fruit bars are not allowed.** Children may only have fruit or vegetables from home.

If you have not done so already, could you please ensure that your child has a St. Charles school bag which she/he brings to school each day.

Last but not least, please remember to fill in 'WOW' slips about your child. These are an opportunity for you to share with us any significant moments in your child's learning, which your child has achieved outside of school. For example: learning to ride a bicycle, setting the dinner table, making their own bed, dressing themselves independently etc. These will be put in your child's bag on a weekly basis.

We thank you again for your involvement, when school and home work together the children always benefit. Please feel free to arrange a time to speak to us if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harwood  
Reception Teacher