

September 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Nursery! Our Nursery curriculum questions this term are **'Who am I and Who are my Friends?'**, **'Why are the leaves turning yellow?'** and **'What happens when it gets cold?'**. We will be teaching according to the new development matters document for 3 - 4 year olds. During the first half term we will concentrate on settling into school and the **3 Prime EYFS Areas**:

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Children will spend the first half term settling into the daily routine of Nursery. They will learn to follow our classroom and school rules as well as learning to play and work together in a friendly and kind manner, learning to share and take turns and being able to ask an adult for help.

Communication and Language and Literacy

Children will communicate their wants and needs using a simple sentence, ask and answer simple questions, understand and respond to simple instructions. Children will be learning to sit on the carpet for a short period of time, listening to familiar and new stories, songs and rhymes. Children will also take part in rhyming and rhythmic activities.

Physical Development

This half term we will also have a particular focus on children being able to:

- Climb confidently and is beginning to pull themselves up on nursery play climbing equipment
- Imitate drawing simple shapes such as circles and lines.
- Run skillfully and negotiate space successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles.
- Begin to use three fingers (tripod grip) to hold writing tools
- Feed themselves self competently
- Drink from a cup well without spilling
- Clearly communicate their need for the toilet

We will also begin to work in the **4 Specific Areas**:

Mathematics

We will be learning about numbers through songs and rhymes on a daily basis. Children will learn to count from 1-10 and be able to select a small number of objects from a group when asked, for example, 'please give me one', 'please give me two'. We will look at shapes in the environment and start using positional language to describe where objects are hidden. Children will also be able to recognise numbers of personal significance e.g. their age.

Understanding of the World

In Understanding of the World, children will be learning and expected to:

- Show an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them.
- Remember and talk about significant events in their own experience.
- Recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends.

ICT

We will be developing our awareness of ICT software through the use of the interactive whiteboard and beebots.

Religion

Our RE topics for the autumn term are 'Myself' and 'Birthday'. In addition, the children will also be learning school prayers and how to make the sign of the cross.

Expressive Arts and Design

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

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.

The EYFS curriculum has changed this year, and with it, we are changing how we observe and record the children's learning and progress throughout the Nursery year. We will no longer be creating large individual profiles for each child and will instead be focusing on daily group observations and creating a class record of our time together. We will send your child home with work they have created throughout the school year.

We would like to remind parents and carers that in Nursery 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 or game to be shared.

Please remember that your child needs a clear water bottle in school. Please also ensure that it is named. In Nursery the children are provided with a piece of fruit in the afternoon. 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.

And last but not least, we would love to hear about what your child has been getting up to outside of school. Please email pictures and comments to the nursery email address (nursery@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk) so we can celebrate them at school. Examples of what you might want to share are with us any significant moments in your child's learning such as counting to 5 independently, dressing themselves independently, helping mummy or daddy with chores or pictures of places they have visited such as parks, museums or other places of interest.

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 me if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Thank you for your support,

Yours sincerely,

Meriel McCauley (Nursery Teacher)