

September 2022

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Welcome to Reception! Our curriculum questions this term are, ‘Who am I and who are my friends?’ and ‘Why are the leaves turning orange?’ 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 have started the ‘Essential Letters and Sounds’ phonics scheme to teach all the sounds needed to read and write in English. A sound activity sheet will be sent home for children to complete at the end of every week. **Please encourage your child to complete each piece of work, as it is an important consolidation of what is being taught in class.** These will be collected the following Friday.

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 this week. Please read with your child daily. New books will go home on a Wednesday but we ask that you bring book bags in daily as we will also be reading with children on different days each week. **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

We will be following the Mathematics 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

Our curriculum questions will help us to:

- 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

Fine and gross motor activities will take place throughout the day and on a daily basis as this is one of our prime areas of learning.

In addition, PE will take place every Tuesday. **Children will need to come in wearing their PE kit.** Please ensure they have the correct attire. Please continue to encourage your child to dress and undress themselves.

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 has their name on it. In Reception and Key Stage One, children are provided with a piece of fruit at playtime; however, your child can bring fruit/vegetable from home if he/she chooses to. **Please be aware that yogurts and fruit bars are not allowed.**

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

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,

Ms Almasri
Reception Teacher