

11th January 2023



CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head: Ann Slavin

Deputy Head: Tony Lynch

Assistant Head: Marilyn Troyano

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Happy New Year! It is lovely to welcome you and your children back to St Charles and I look forward to working with you this Spring Term.

Our topics this term are Fairy tales, My world and Growth.

Personal, Emotional and Social Development

This term children will be encouraged to develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies and manage personal needs independently.

Communication and Language & Literacy

This term we will continue to start each day with phonics. Children will learn up to four new sounds a week and will have a review lesson on a Friday. These sounds will also go home as part of the weekly homework every Friday. It is essential that children continue to read and practise these sounds on a regular basis at home through reading daily.

In addition to this, you will also find a list of our Harder to Read and Spell words stuck on the front cover of your child's reading record. This list will have words that we will have already learned in school and some that we will be learning at some point during the term. When we read with children at school, we will check that they know these words and tick them off the list. Please support your child to learn and become secure in these, especially ones that we have already covered in school.

In Phonics, we will:

- Hear and identify the sound in words including digraphs and trigraphs.
- Learn to read and write Harder to Read and Spell Words and practise using these in short sentences.
- Practise letter formation using lead ins and lead outs.
- Sound out and write words and sentences with increased confidence.
- Continue to read stories as a class and individually, encouraging children to decode words and discuss what they have read.

Books are changed every **Monday**. We are unable to change books if we do not get the old ones back by the following Monday. Please ensure that your child brings in their reading folder to school **every day** so that they can read with an adult during the week.

Mathematics

This term we will continue developing a strong grounding in number. This is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically.

This Spring Term we will be learning:

- Addition and Subtraction within ten.
- Grouping and Sharing
- Number patterns within 15
- Doubling and halving
- Shape and pattern
- Calendars and Time

Understanding Our World

During the Spring Term, children will be learning from a broad selection of books, ranging from stories and non-fiction books to rhymes and poems. These will foster and support their understanding of our world and equip them with important knowledge, guiding them to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology, and the 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 Spring term are 'Celebrating' 'Gathering', 'Easter' and 'Growing'.

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.

Music

Reception Class will be learning about the melody. Children will be exploring singing at different pitches adding regular beat using untuned percussive instruments.

Physical Development

PE will take place every **Thursday**. This term the children will be working with coaches and focusing on team games. **Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on that day each week.**

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

Important days:

- Reading books are changed every **Monday**
- Reading books to be sent to school **daily**
- Homework will be set every **Friday**
- Homework to be completed and returned the following **Friday**
- PE day – **Thursday**

We thank you for your continued support and as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do contact me and we can arrange a time to speak. You can reach me at ra@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk
This email address is not for informing the school of absence; the main office must be contacted in that instance. Please remember that as I am in class teaching during the day, I may not be able to reply instantly, but will get back to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Almasri
Reception Teacher