



Reception Newsletter– Lent 1



2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We have another exciting half term ahead of us in Reception, filled with fun and lots of new learning opportunities.



RE

Our topics for this half term are 'Celebrating' and 'Gathering'. We will be discussing the different types of celebrations we share with our families and friends, as well as celebrations within the parish community. We also look forward to visiting church, giving the children the opportunity to talk to Father Philipp and hunt for artefacts that are involved in celebrations there.

Our key Bible story will be the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple.

Lent 1 2024

Our wonder question and line of enquiry for this half term will be:

I wonder what superpowers you have?

We will be exploring the themes:

- *People who help us - heroes in the community
- *Heroes from the past

Maths

In Maths, we are becoming confident mathematicians and it has been wonderful to see the children applying their knowledge and skills during discovery time. This half term, we will be focusing on:

- *Night and day – ordering key events
- *Shapes with 4 sides
- *Counting, matching, representing, subitising and comparing numbers to 5
- *Composition of numbers 4 and 5
- *Zero
- *Comparing mass
- *Comparing capacity

Literacy



In Phonics, we will be using the sounds covered so far to read and write longer words such as tent or sink (CVCC words). We will also be focusing on the double consonants for reading and spelling – ll / ff / ss / zz.

* Story time sessions have continued to be a huge hit in Reception, and we are looking forward to starting our own class voting station to vote for our favourite books.

*We are thrilled and delighted to see the children's enthusiasm to write in the classroom. We have enjoyed reading all their cards, lists, signs and even letters. We are looking forward to having a go at other forms of writing this half term such as story maps, descriptive writing and making mini books. Please continue to encourage your child to write for different purposes using the sounds that they have learnt in phonics and practise their letter formation. We would love to see the wonderful writing you do at home as well as in class.

*We are looking forward to sharing a range of non-fiction books about real-life heroes in the community. Our key texts this half term will also focus on heroes from the past and how they have shaped our world today.



Expressive Arts and Design

We are looking forward to exploring and engaging in music making using a variety of instruments and dance, performing solo and in groups. This half term, we will also be exploring and using a variety of materials and techniques to make and improve our own creations such as our emergency vehicles. In addition to this we will be exploring blending colours using paint and experimenting with a variety of painting tools.

Understanding of the World

To coincide with our topic, we will be discussing different occupations, people around us and their roles in society. We will compare and contrast heroes from the past and present using books and our own experiences. We will also explore the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around us.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



We will continue to explore and understand the views and feelings of others and how to talk to others to resolve conflicts. During 'Discovery Time', we will be focussing on key skills such as sharing, empathy, resilience and perseverance, and will also link these to our school values. We will identify and celebrate our strengths and talents, taking pride in our own achievements. We will also discuss good and bad choices that we may face, as well as how to keep our bodies healthy.

Physical Development

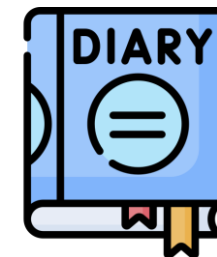
This half term, we will focus on using a range of tools competently, safely, and confidently such as scissors, paintbrushes, knives, forks, play dough tools and pens. We will also build upon on gross motor skills in the outside area and in Gymnastics during P.E. to develop our overall body strength, co-ordination, balance and agility. We will focus on the movement skills - hopping, skipping and running with increased control.

Communication and Language

We are learning to be confident communicators by thinking of relevant questions to ask our peers, adults and visitors to gain further information. Through a variety of books and discussions, we will be learning new and ambitious vocabulary, and encouraging the children to become 'Word Collectors'. Using our 'loud and proud' voices, we will also focus on offering explanations for why things happen and develop our confidence when talking about non-fiction texts and using new vocabulary.

Dates for your diary

- Wednesday 10th January- visit from the fire fighters
- Thursday 18th January- visit from Dr De Winton
- **WB 15th January -visit to the Church of the Good Shepherd (date tbc)**
- WB 29th January- National storytelling week (further details to follow).
- Friday 9th February – INSET day
- 12th-16th - February Half Term break
- Monday 19th February - INSET day
- Tuesday 20th February – children return to school.



Reminders

*Please ensure to sign/comment in the diary when you have heard your child read or have shared a book together. We love reading all the comments about how your child is doing with their reading at home.

*Please ensure **all** items of clothing, including hats, scarves, gloves are named.