St. Cuthbert’s Catholic Primary School

Summer 1 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

We are writing to inform you of what your child will be learning and the skills they will be developing during the Summer Term in Reception.

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| During the **first half of the summer term** our topic will be **‘Growing’**. As part of this topic, we will plant a variety of different seeds and care for them as they grow into plants. The children will also learn about the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal. The **second topic** of the **Summer term** will be ‘**Seaside and Sunshine’.**  As part of this topic, we will develop an understanding of the United Kingdom and the seaside towns nearby. |
| **Subject** | **Topic** | **Skills** | **What you can do to help your child** |
| Reading/Communication and Language/Writing | GrowingSeaside | The text that we will be sharing as part of our Pathways to write topic is, ‘Gigantosaurus’ by Jonny Duddle. The children will be developing their rhyming skills by creating a rhyming wall. In lessons, we will create a story pathway to represent significant events in the story. The text that we will be sharing as part of our Pathways to write topic is, ‘See Saw’ By Tom Percival. The children will be shown how to write sentences about a special object and a journey to the seaside. They will practise writing a sentence with a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop. They will be encouraged to re-read what they have written to check it makes sense. | Visit the local library and enjoy looking at all the books. Share some of the following books about dinosaurs Dinosaur Roar by Paul and Henrietta Stickland Katie and the Dinosaurs by James Mayhew The big book of dinosaurs by Usborne Before starting this book in Summer 2 you will be asked to talk with your child about their most precious toy/item and send in a photograph of it. |
| Personal, Social and Emotional Development | GrowingSeaside | Our focus will be how we grow together in friendship and with perseverance, to always be the best we can be. We will think about the needs of others and how we manage our feelings. As we prepare to move into Year 1 we will explore how we build up our confidence and what it means to set goals and work towards growing in our achievements. | Share photographs of family, celebrating the lives of the old and young members. Discuss photos from your child’s years and celebrate how they have grown and changed. Talk about what they can do now that they could not before and what they are excited to be able to do next. |
| Understanding of the World | GrowingSeaside | Set up a range of planting experiences for the children to explore. This will include trowels, compost and seeds. Look at a range of plants so the children know what a plant looks like. Name different parts of a plant and discuss how to look after plants. We will look together at a map of the UK and cities, towns, villages near the sea, inland or on islands of the UK. We will learn about what people like to do when they visit the seaside. | Share some planting different plants (flowers & herbs) at home and discuss how seeds grow into plants. Discuss how they have grown and changed. Use the herbs in your cooking and decorate your house with the flowers.Share an atlas to locate different seaside towns. Visit a local seaside town and enjoy the beach and sea. |
| Expressive Arts | GrowingSeaside | Drawing plants and flowers using close observation focusing on the shapes and thickness of the brushes. Learn and sing songs about dinosaurs – Dinosaur, dinosaur turn around; A dinosaur went stomping one day.We will listen to water music. The contrast with calm/storm sea music which will be interpreted through expressive dance/movement The children will have the opportunity to experiment with percussion instruments to accompany their expressive dance. | Share Nursery rhyme songs. Recite your favorites and learn new ones together.Use buckets of water and paint brushes for big patterns/writing on the path as we do in the sand on the beach. |
| Physical Development | GrowingSeaside | The children will explore moving with a ball using their feet. They will develop their technique of dribbling the ball and understand where and why we dribble, keeping control. Pupils will explore rolling, pushing and bouncing a ball with a partner.In Summer 2 the children will explore why we need to follow the rules and keep the score during a game. They will learn how to apply very simple tactics for attacking and defending in games | Encourage your child to hold a pencil in a tripod grip in order to develop fast and accurate handwriting.**PE is on a Friday and your child should come to school wearing their PE kit. A black tracksuit and white t-shirt.** |

**Please continue to help your child with the following:**

-Support with writing their first name and surname.

-Reading and sequencing numerals from 1-20 and writing them.

-Encourage your child to use a pair of scissors. Support them to secure an effective hold, making small and long snips on paper. Always model carrying a pair of scissors, blades closed and pointing down, wrapped securely in your hand.

Encouraging self-help skills such as dressing, fastening buttons and zips, putting socks and shoes on.

**Reading**

The children are working hard in class each day in RWI and we really value your support at home. Share your child’s reading book, ditty or letters with them **every day**. **Write a comment about reading together.** As part of the nighttime routine, read a bedtime story to your child.

**Evidence Me**

We will continue to share your child’s learning journey with you on Evidence Me; this is a chance to see what your child has been doing over the week and how you can further support them at home.

**Thank you for your continued support,**

**Mrs Hopkins and Mrs Bailey**