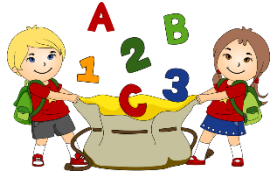




Autumn Term (2) 2023

Reception Curriculum Letter

Mrs L Ainscough & Mrs N Cassidy



Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the October half term holiday. Hope you all managed to enjoy some autumn walks and time with your friends and family.

Topic

This half term our topic will be called "What's your Toy Story"? We will be looking at teddy bears and other toys. Our main text for the half term will be 'The Paper Dolls' by Julia Donaldson. The children will also be exploring the following texts: Old Bear, Lost in the Toy Museum, Kippers toybox, & Dogger as well as some non-fiction books about toys from the past. If you have any toys, teddies, books or photos of old toys that you could photograph and upload to your child's tapestry account they would be a great starting point for our show & tell to help promote speaking & listening.

Your child will develop very quickly over this academic year. In the Early Years, planning from your child's interest is paramount for their development and enjoyment of each topic. To help with this we have included with this curriculum letter a 'planning map' for you to complete with your child. In the centre you will see our topic for this half term. Please can we ask you to have a short discussion with your child about what they would like to know about the different areas we are going to cover. From this we will then include these ideas in our planning so that your child receives a bespoke curriculum involving home, school and the child in the planning process. Many thanks for completing these for Autumn term 1. We were able to weave quite a few ideas of what you child wanted to know into my planning and we asked lots of questions along the way.



Vocabulary

Here is a list of vocabulary, which we will be exploring during our topic this half term. The words to support our historical development are *old, new, young, today, yesterday, tomorrow, past, present, artefact, long ago, now, then, before, after, change, different, invention, chronology, memory and compare*. Some words we will be exploring to support our scientific development are *materials, natural, plastic, fabric, rough, smooth, hard and flexible*.

A few notices:

- 🍁 We have a fantastic EYFS team across the Nursery and Reception class at St Mary's. In the Reception class there are three adults this year - Mrs Ainscough & Mrs Cassidy as the class teachers and the very experienced and talented Teaching Assistants Mrs Swarbrick. Mrs Ainscough will be the Class teacher Monday - Thursday and Mrs Cassidy will be the Class teacher on Friday.
- 🍁 All teachers have release time during the week for PPA (planning, preparation & assessment). Mrs Cassidy will be covering Mrs Ainscough's PPA time on a Thursday from 1.30 pm. Throughout the week we have small 'key worker' group time with either Mrs Ainscough, Mrs Cassidy or Mrs Swarbrick to sing songs/read stories/ opportunities for speaking and listening and 'Show and tell' including looking at 'magic' moments from home.
- 🍁 The children will do P.E. every Friday afternoon. **Please can you make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit every Friday.**
- 🍁 Everyday your child has access to a drink of milk after their lunch time. Please can you ensure that your child brings in a water bottle filled with water every day for them to access in the classroom.
- 🍁 We offer toast as an additional morning snack which will be incorporated into your child's learning each day. The school office will send information out as to when this will be starting and you will pay for this termly if you so wish.

Come and See



In St Mary's school, the children are taught Religious Education through a teaching scheme called *Come and See*. We will begin the Autumn 2 term finishing off our welcome topic where we will be looking at how to make someone welcome as well as how we are welcomed into the church through Baptism. The children will be looking at Judaism as part of our other faiths work which will be done over the course of a week. We will then move onto our topic of Loving where we will look at Advent & Christmas together with celebrations - in particular Birthdays.

Outdoor Provision



Each day the children have access to outdoor provision which can get a little messy and wet. It is important that your child has a waterproof coat and wellies (which are to be left outside the Reception classroom) as we enjoy playing outside - whatever the weather! Please can you ensure that your child's belongings are **clearly labelled with their name.**



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full access to your child's area. As well as viewing our observations we would warmly welcome yours from home. Please feel free to upload pictures with a description of what your child has done over the weekend and in the evenings. The adults in Reception class will then be able to comment on them. We will also use these as speaking and listening opportunities to share in class.

Magic moments are another way in which you can contribute to your child's learning journey. They are to be completed by an adult when you see your child do something that perhaps you haven't seen before or make you go 'wow' or smile. Please entitle your tapestry upload with 'magic moment'.

Author of the Half Term

Our Author for Autumn Term is Jill Murphy! We will be reading lots of stories by Jill Murphy and learning one by heart.



Christmas - A little advance warning...

Christmas is fast approaching and we are excited to be able to do our annual Christmas Nativity performance in school for parents again this year! Nursery and Reception class will be working together to present 'The Twinkly Nativity!' The EYFS Christmas performances will be on Monday 18th December at 2pm and Tuesday 19th December at 9.30am. More information about tickets will be sent out from the school office in the next few weeks.

We hope you find the above information useful together with the curriculum overview attached to give you a flavour of what exciting new learning your child is taking part in. In early years, lots of planning is done from the children's interests therefore activities may change and develop in different ways throughout the half term.

Yours Sincerely
Mrs Lisa Ainscough & Mrs Nicola Cassidy
Class Teachers



With Christ We Live, We Love, We Learn, We Grow



Come and See

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Mathematics

- We will be focusing on numbers 5-10
- Looking at writing each number
- Different ways of making the number (including money)
- Learning how to recognise and write the number as a word e.g. one, two, three, four, five...
- Looking at 2D shapes that have 5-10 sides
- Using simple addition & subtraction using these numbers
- Doubling & halving even numbers to 10
- Our topic 'Toys' will provide a foundation for the exploration of size. Children will explore different sized toys using the vocabulary 'small', 'medium' and 'large'. They will also be encouraged to talk about the shapes of the toys, finding similarities and differences between different toys. Our 'Terrific Toy Shop' role play will also introduce money and addition and subtraction using objects.
- Toy shop
- Counting Teddy Bears

Personal, Social & Emotional Development (PSED)

- We will be looking at relationships and friendships, turn taking, sharing, negotiating
- Children to talk about their favourite toy and why they are special.
- Talking about looking after the toys in the class.
- Discussing how to share the toys, put them away properly and take turns when using them.
- Talking about times they might need their favourite toys such as when poorly or going to bed.
- Group games to encourage turn taking and fair play.

Communication and Language (CL)

- Asking questions and turn taking in speaking
- Sharing stories about things they have done at home
- Develop listening skills in small groups and during whole class carpet times when listening to stories.
- Toys party and toy shop role play.
- Empathise with characters in books, e.g. "Dave" in the "Dogger" story and relate to own experience.

What is your Toy Story? Autumn Term 2

Physical Development (PD)

- We will be looking at how to handle tools, objects, construction materials and malleable materials safely and with increasing control.
- Improving our co-ordination in large and small scale movements through threading, pencil control, painting, picking up objects with tweezers, dough disco,
- Learning how to take our coats on & off and zipping them up ourselves.
- Improve our independent skills through self-registration and snack time.
- Children to create movements representing different toys such as a teddy bear, a doll, a robot, an action figure, a bouncy ball, a toy car and a string puppet.
- Shaping and moulding own teddy bears using salt dough.
- Playing marble run
- Threading beads to make necklaces for Teddies/dolls

Understanding of the World (UW)

- How toys today are different to those in the past
- Sorting old and new toys
- Look at some toys that use batteries. Talk about how they work and what happens when the toys are switched on - what effects do they produce? What noises? What movements?
- Explore how toys move. Investigations using balls, wheeled toys etc. - how can it move e.g. Push, pull, battery? Magnetic toys - explore how they move.
- How are teddy bears made?
- Talk about the different materials used to make toys today. Use some sorting hoops labelled 'wood', 'plastic', 'fabric' and 'mixture', encouraging the children to sort some familiar toys into the hoops. Talk about why different materials are used to make toys for different purposes.
- Seasons & changes through autumn into winter
- Why does it go darker earlier?
- Parents or grandparents to talk to the children about the toys they played with when they were children.

Expressive Arts & Design (EAD)

- Collage work, printing, painting using handprints & sponges, exploring different textures (shaving foam & paint), painting using teabags, tiger prints, spider sponges.
- Simple Teddy bear shapes cut out of felt. The children to use a child-safe needle and thread to sew two pieces together. Hole punched pieces and then cotton wool or stuffing inside. Decorate using pom-poms or buttons for a face and felt-tip pens to draw on details.
- Painting pictures of their favourite toys
- Junk model toys
- The children will make their own toys for our toy shop. They will think about the design and the resources that they need. They will also design and create their own puppets for our puppet theatre, introducing and developing a narrative into their play.
- The children will be exploring Bonfire Night to explore sounds that they might hear and what do the fireworks sound like? They will use this knowledge as they explore the different sounds instruments make. The children will explore what fireworks look like as they explode in the sky and will be creating artwork from this. They will use different modes of expression such as paper and paint, chalking onto the playground and using the computer to create their own representations.
- Christmas crafts such as Christmas cards, tree decorations.

Literacy

- As our writing progresses, the children will be developing their mark making into forming letters. This will be alongside our Read, Write, Inc. lessons, which also develop the children's ability to segment words verbally and then begin to write sounds in sequence to form simple two and three letter words. The children will continue to learn to write their own name and other things such as labels and captions. Our story for this half term will be based on 'Paper Dolls'. The children will use this story to learn the actions and create a story map. They will then adapt the story to make their own.
- The children will be exploring a range of different books about toys. This includes fictional storybooks and non-fiction fact files. The children bring home books matched to their phonics ability, some of these may have no words but the children should be encouraged to talk about the pictures. The children will also be continuing to bring home a library book to share with you.
- Writing labels for favourite toys using phonics knowledge.
- Writing shopping lists of toys
- Writing invitations for a teddy bears picnic
- Writing guess what cards to describe different toys
- Instructions to make toys move
- Writing Christmas letters