



# Spring Term (2) 2024

## Reception Curriculum Letter

### Mrs L Ainscough & Mrs N Cassidy

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a fun and relaxing half term break. Let's hope we start to see some nicer weather as we move into spring. We have another busy and exciting half term ahead!

#### Topic

Our topic in Reception for this half term is 'How does Jack's Beanstalk grow?' Please see attached curriculum overview, which outlines what your child will be learning over the next few weeks. We have included as much information as possible so that you have some ideas of the activities your child might have been up to while at school. Our main text for this half term is 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Other texts your child will explore are 'Hattie Peck', 'The Tiny Seed', 'The Hungry Caterpillar' and a range of other Fairy Tales. We will also be looking at lots of non-fiction texts about plants and growth!



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 Spring term 1. We were able to weave quite a few ideas of what your child wanted to know into my planning and we asked lots of questions along the way.

#### Come and See (RE)



We will start the half term by finishing off our 'Gathering' topic. In this topic children will know and understand how and why people gather together and the joy of gathering together to celebrate at mass. Following this our next 'Come and See' topic will be 'Growing'. During this topic children will know and understand spring is time when things begin to grow and that lent is a time to grow in love to be more like Jesus and to look forward to Easter.

#### Vocabulary

Here is a list of Goldilocks words (words that are just right) for your children to learn over this next half term. The words are linked to spring. **Buds, chick, tadpoles, duckling, blossom, spring, hatch, grow, plant, capture, wriggle, young.** Some extra words (step on words) that you may like to explore are **frog spawn, offspring, decompose, developing, bountiful, perfumed, newborn.**

## Author of the Half Term

Our Author for Spring Term is Mick Inkpen! We will be reading lots of stories by Mick Inkpen and learning one by heart.



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.**
- Every day 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.

## 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.



## Weekend News

Weekend News will be continued in Spring Term 2 to develop the children's writing skills. Each week your child will be invited to write and draw a picture about what they have been doing at the weekend and outside of school. This will then be shared with the rest of the class during speaking & listening time. It may help your child if you have a brief chat with them about their weekend.

## Magic Moments

'Magic Moments' are one 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 add a photo or comment on Tapestry of your child's magic moment for us to share.



## Reading Books and Homework



Please can you ensure that your child brings their reading book and reading record book into school on the day stated below (they have a coloured sticker on their plastic book bag). Their reading book will be changed (if needed) on this day only. **Your child should read their book three times.** Your child's reading book is important, however, this isn't the only book that they can read (or have a go at reading). Please encourage your child to read other books at home or in the library. If you wish to do so you can record the other books they are reading into their reading record book too. Homework is given out/uploaded onto Tapestry as and when your child's phonics teacher feels they have new learning to consolidate at home. This may be every day. Please can you upload your completed homework onto Tapestry. Thank you for all your support with homework!

<u>Monday</u>	
<u>Tuesday</u>	<b>RED</b>
<u>Wednesday</u>	<b>YELLOW</b>
<u>Thursday</u>	<b>GREEN</b>
<u>Friday</u>	



### Tapestry

We hope you are still enjoying seeing all the exciting and fun learning activities your child is involved in while at school. You can also add your own contributions to Tapestry so we can see what your child has been learning

We hope at home too! Please ask if you would like any help in doing this.

### Stay and Play

This half terms stay and play will be a Mother's Day theme on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Look out for more information regarding this.

If you have any questions about anything please feel free to catch us at the door at the beginning or at the end of the day. We are always happy to talk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Lisa Ainscough & Mrs Nicola Cassidy  
Class Teachers

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

  
TAPESTRY  
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