



Reception Newsletter Spring 2023

Welcome back to all our families after the Christmas break. We hope that you had a happy time celebrating this special season.



Thank you for all your kind messages, cards and gifts over the Christmas season - they are greatly appreciated! We hope that you enjoyed watching the children's Nativity performance. They worked hard at rehearsing their songs and enjoyed having an audience to share their enthusiasm with!

We're look forward to an exciting term of learning as the children continue to build on the good start made during the past term.

Topics: During the first half of the Spring term, we will be focussing on Winter, and have been asked 'Is it Winter Everywhere?' We have been discussing features associated with winter, and it would be good to discuss the changes that children observe in the weather and the environment on their journey to school or whilst out and about. As part of our work for 'Understanding the world' we will be learning about animals who live in the Arctic regions, and will compare different environments by also learning more about animals in very warm countries.

Sharing stories with the children is an important part of their vocabulary development, and we will continue to do this regularly. Some of these will include 'Stick Man' (Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler), 'Lost and found' (Oliver Jeffers), 'Handa's Surprise' (Eileen Browne) 'Elmer in the Winter' (David McKee) and a variety of 'Little Bear' books (Martin Waddell). When visiting the local library, look out for these books to read at home as a bedtime story.



Reading: It has been pleasing to see that a number of children are beginning to receive their reading certificates. Please continue to support your children in developing their reading skills. Children should be reading to an adult at home at least 5 times each week, as regular reading is required in order for them to reach the expected level in Reading by the end of their Reception year.



R.E:

Our R.E themes for the term will focus on developing an understanding of Celebrations, particularly those associated with the Parish Community and celebrations that happen at church.

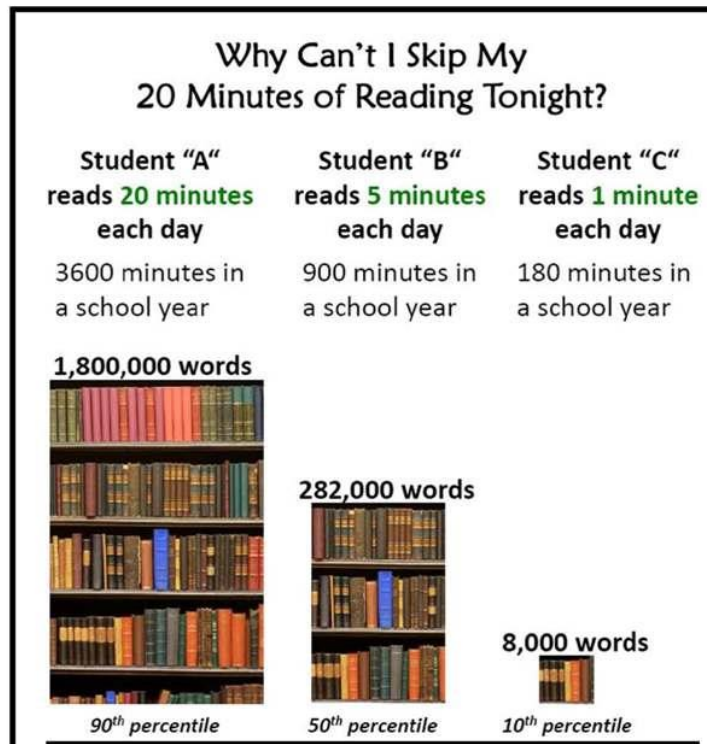
We will also look at Gathering and how our church community and parish family gather together to celebrate the Eucharist.

Key dates:

Parent's Consultation sessions: We will continue the system of having 3 Focus Children each week, and will, therefore, make appointments to meet with parents following the week that your child is a 'Focus Child'. All parents will have met with the class teachers by the February half-term. Each child will then become a Focus Child once more following the February half-term. We hope that parents are finding this new format for the Parent's Consultation sessions valuable, as it allows Staff to have a slightly longer meeting about each child and allows them to share their work with parents, which they are always very excited about!

10th February, 2023: INSET day - School closed for pupils.

A final thought:



By the end of Year 6, Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school ... and in life?

(Adapted from Nagy & Herman, 1987)