

Reception Curriculum Newsletter

Our learning this term will be based around two questions:

1. Why am I Important to our World?

Our first topic question, focuses on what makes each child unique in the world. They will continue to develop their understanding of themselves, their families and their responsibility towards the community. The children will learn all about the body, space, seasons and recycling. This will be used as a focus for writing, creativity and exploration.

2. Do I need feathers or fur?

The second topic question has a primary focus on animals and their habitats. We will explore woodland, arctic and jungle/ocean habitats and develop knowledge of why animals live in different places. We will also explore pets and animal features e.g. why some animals are camouflaged.

This year there is a new Early Years Framework and the Early Learning Goals have changed. There is an emphasis on improving children's language and vocabulary through increasing opportunities for conversations, reading of a wide range of books and holding discussions around activities in other areas of learning. Literacy and Numeracy skills focused on have been adapted to better match up with the National Curriculum that starts in Y1. There is no longer an exceeding judgement at the end of Reception. Children will instead be challenged to have a greater depth and understanding of ideas.

The ELG are now:

Communication and Language: Listening, Attention and Understanding;
Speaking

PSED: Self -Regulation; Managing Self; Building Relationships

Physical Development: Gross Motor Skills; Fine Motor Skills

Literacy: Comprehension; Word Reading; Writing

Maths: Number; Number Patterns

Expressive Arts and Design: Creating and Materials: Being Creative and Imaginative

Understanding the World: Past and Present; People, Culture and Communities

Maths -With the new framework, Reception Maths now includes Number and Number Patterns. Although we will be verbally counting to 20 this term, we will be deepening their understanding of numbers to 5, the relationships between the numbers and the patterns within them. We will be using equipment to understand the value of numbers to 5, ordering and making 1 more/less and the number bonds for each number. We will be subitising (recognising quantities without counting) and trying to develop automatic recall of the number bonds for numbers 0 to 5. We will also be developing their spatial reasoning skills by looking at shape, space and measures

Literacy - In Reception, it is crucial that children develop a life-love of reading. We teach this through word reading and language comprehension. Across Reception, the children will be exposed to different texts and genres including: rhymes, poetry, fiction, non-fiction, traditional tales and phonically decodable books. We do this following the Read Write inc. programme. Our writing programme involves spelling, handwriting and articulating ideas by structuring them in speech before writing. We are currently learning to hear and write initial sounds.

RE To complement the children's understanding of their uniqueness and importance in the world we will look at how each child is special to God and part of God's family. This will lead on to looking at Creation and Harvest. The second half of term will be learning about the Miracles of Jesus, Special (Holy) books, the Nativity story and Channukah.

Forest Classroom and Outside Learning

In the new EYFS framework, there is a huge focus on expanding the children's outdoor learning experience through working in the natural environment. We do this to encourage interactions with the outdoors, to foster curiosity and hands on experiences of the world around them. As a school, we now have Forest School status which involves the children working in the forest classroom with skilled members of staff to provide opportunity to explore a new setting, use new vocabulary and be inquisitive about nature.