

ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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8 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Summer Term. We look forward to building on all the great progress that the children have made. This term our topic is 'All Creatures Great and Small', where we will start by looking at minibeasts and then move on to 'under the sea'.

I have put a medium term plan on the Reception Class page on the website.

Curriculum

RE: Our RE themes for this term are 'To the Ends of the Earth' and 'Life to the Full' which will include looking at Easter and Pentecost. The children will also explore some aspects of other faiths.

Personal, Social & Emotional development –We will be continuing to develop skills in working and playing cooperatively, including thinking about how we can find solutions to problems. We will also be developing confidence in speaking in front of a group and continuing to think about feelings and consequences of actions. We will look at playing games with rules.

Communication and Language We will be listening to and retelling stories linked to St George, The Bad-Tempered Ladybird and The Enormous Turnip. We will continue to develop and broaden vocabulary through our topics and look at asking and answering questions, especially ones that use 'how' and 'why'. The children will have the opportunity to explore and use new vocabulary linked to our topics.

Physical Development PE sessions will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The children are making good progress in these sessions. At the moment the children can still wear their PE kits to school but we would encourage you to continue to ask your child to get dressed/changed by themselves at home, ready for Year 1. We will be continuing to improve gross and fine motor skills and developing the effective use of simple tools. The children will continue to think about ways of keeping healthy and safe.

Literacy Our phonics work with Read, Write, Inc will continue. We will introduce some new sounds for some children towards the end of this term, as well as focusing on the children using what they know in both their reading and writing. We will also practise reading and writing the 'red words' (those that cannot be sounded out). The children will continue to learn letter names as well as the sounds. We will be focusing on the children's understanding of the stories they read and hear. To develop children's writing we will be encouraging children to 'hold a sentence'; this means repeating a simple sentence several times and then writing it independently, remembering which word comes next. They will also extend their writing by including words such as 'and' and 'then'. The children will look at using lots of story language in their work.

Numeracy We will be working on comparing, ordering and writing numbers to 20; looking at the number that is 1 more/less and identifying sets that have more/fewer. We will be continuing to explore addition and subtraction and its associated vocabulary

(add, take away, how many, total etc). There will be a large focus on problem solving, including halving, doubling and sharing and also using money and comparing measurements. We will continue to learn the names of 2D and 3D shapes and use vocabulary such as corner, side, edge etc. The children will be encouraged to talk about their ideas and understanding.

Understanding

the World

The children will explore living things and changes through learning about different animals and their habitats. They will also think about ways of taking care of their environment. The children will learn about Eugenie Clark and her contribution to learning about the sea (especially sharks). We will also be looking at the story 'Millie's Marvelous Hat' and explore old and new hats. The children will have opportunities to use the Chrome books and IPADs to find simple information and will explore 'control' by using the code-a-pillar and by programming 'Beebot' to follow simple directions.

Expressive Arts and Design The children will have lots of opportunities to explore their own responses to our topics through music, art, drama etc. Using the book 'Swirl' by Swirl', the children will explore spirals and will also respond to the work of Alexander Calder and Robert Smithson. We will be making a class sculpture of a fish. Our role play areas will include an animal explorer area and a hat shop but will change depending on the children's ideas. We will be engaging in lots of story-telling and encouraging the children to use their imaginations to tell their own.

Outdoor learning is a necessary part of the Foundation Stage curriculum and the children are given opportunities throughout the day to explore and play outside. This does mean that they need appropriate clothing so please make sure your child has a coat and a named sunhat. When the weather is warmer you may also wish to put sun cream on before school. The children can bring in their own sun cream to keep in their book bag but they will need to apply it themselves.

Reading books will continue to be changed on a Friday so please make sure they are in the book bag on that day. We change sharing books on a Monday. We are missing a few so if you could have a look at home for any, we would be very grateful.

Due to Covid we have unfortunately not been able to invite you in to see your child's work or have parents' meetings this year. As this is your child's first year in school I would like to be able to talk through the end of year EYFS levels with you and the progress your child has made against these. I will therefore be offering a chance to meet at the end of this half term/beginning of June. I will send a letter out with more details once I know how this can be arranged.

Thank you very much for your continued support and, as always, please do not hesitate to speak to us or email me at ACWeetch@educ.somerset.gov.uk if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Weetch and the Reception Class team.