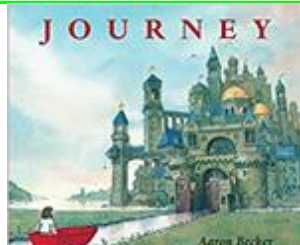


Foundation Stage News - Summer Term 2018



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term after, hopefully, a restful and enjoyable Easter break. The children are all keen to be back in school and are ready to continue their learning. We cannot believe that the children are into their third and final term in Foundation Stage! Time certainly does fly when you are having fun! The children have already achieved so much in their first two terms at St. Mary's and we are looking forward to witnessing them achieve even greater things in what promises to be a busy and very exciting term.

Our learning journey

In Foundation Stage, we believe that the best way to engage children fully in their learning is to be flexible and allow them to have control over the directions in which their learning journey takes them. Your children's interests led to some very exciting learning last term. We enjoyed our topic 'Caring, Sharing and Daring'. Thank you to Mrs. Elvey and Mrs. Richardson-Livelsey who talked to the classes about their interesting caring jobs.

In this third and final term we have decided to call our topic 'Over the Ground! Under the Sea! We will use this theme as a context to help your children continue to develop key skills such as reading, writing communication and mathematics.



Communication and Language

This term we will be continuing to learn Letters and Sounds using a combination of the 'Letters and Sounds', and 'Jolly Phonics' programmes. The children will also be learning High Frequency and tricky words. The children are being encouraged to use their sound knowledge to write simple CVC words (e.g. cat) and to make an attempt at more complicated words. The children will be learning how to write sentences and will begin to write for a purpose, such as writing lists, instructions, cards etc.

The children will be listening to familiar stories in class and will be asked to talk about what they think will happen next in stories, and retell the stories in order. The children will be working on their letter formation especially focusing on trying to get letters consistent in size and accuracy.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The main aim of Reception is to provide an environment where the children can develop into independent, confident children. To achieve this we encourage the children to work harmoniously with adults and children by following the Golden Rules. This allows for children to understand what is right and wrong and why.

This term the children will be encouraged to show independence in selecting and carrying out activities, initiate ideas and speak and work in a group. The children are encouraged to take turns in conversations and games and to have an awareness of their own needs and the needs of others. We shall be developing these skills through whole class circle times.



Expressive Arts and Design

Creative development is present in all areas of the foundation curriculum. The children have access to activities every day which encourage, promote and celebrate creativity. The children have access to musical instruments, role-play areas, puppets and a creative area where they can make a variety of objects. The adult led creative activities are connected to each weekly theme where we encourage the children to talk about what they are doing.

Physical Development

Physical development is not only about what we do in P.E it is present in all areas' such as using scissors and pencils, to kicking a ball and using climbing equipment. The children will be working on building their skills using tools and P.E equipment as well as using their bodies in different ways for movement and dance. The children are always encouraged to use small and large equipment for physical development.



Every Thursday this term we will have an outdoor PE lesson.

Please ensure that children have a P.E kit to change into on these days, with all items clearly name labelled. Children with long hair will need to have it tied back and no jewellery whatsoever should be worn as we are not able to help remove earrings etc.,

Swimming

This term we will be swimming on Tuesday morning.

The children will need a towel and a swimming hat if their hair is shoulder length. Please speak to me if you can help. Initially the children need lots of help!

R.E.

Our themes this term are 'Stories' and 'Special Places' focusing on what we can learn from stories and what makes a place special across a range of faiths. Our Christian Values for the term are faith, trust and truthfulness followed by friendship, generosity and thankfulness. The children will be encouraged to learn respect for each other through the lessons Jesus taught and from examples set.

Work at home

Please encourage your child to talk about the topics which they are learning about, and to bring in any photographs or other items which are relevant to our theme.

Thank you for sending pictures of your children working with their magnetic letters which we download into their files. Also photographs sent to my email address are great. These can then be pasted into the Learning Journals.

Our Allotment

This term the children will be sowing beans, herbs, radishes, sweet peas and many other flowers and vegetables - including are infamous pumpkins!

The children will spend a lot of time outside in our garden, looking after the flowers and vegetables, watering, looking at insects, examining, using their senses - these are all lasting childhood experiences. It looks like a very busy term!!



Ways to help your child Reading — Encourage reading by looking at favourite stories and books. Act out a story using soft toys or use the internet together to find out about the things they love. Make sure you use the log book to communicate with us about their reading!

Phonics - As during last term all the Foundation Stage staff will be teaching phonics in small groups on a daily basis to ensure each child makes positive progress at their own rate. Therefore some children will be entering phase 4 of the Letters and Sounds phonic programme and will be having the new letter sounds sent home, whilst some children will be continuing with Phase 1 or 2 and will need your help to secure their knowledge of the letters previously sent home (please check book bags for these).

We will be changing scheme books on a WEEKLY basis but only if the log book has been signed to show us that your child has read the book at home. We would also welcome comments on how they have coped with the books and keywords.

Maths skills - look for numbers, shapes and patterns in the places you visit together, count everyday objects and talk about how many more/less/altogether or sort them in to groups to show similarities and differences.

Mark making - practice making the letters that children have been learning in 'Letters and Sounds'. Think fun, don't just use pencil and paper: make up a dance by making movements in the air, paint them with finger paints, ice them on to a cake or even write them in sand if you visit the beach!



The Request Spot!

Thank you to everyone who is bringing in junk modelling materials. We love to have interesting boxes, tubes, plastic lids and trays to make a huge variety of models. Huge cardboard boxes are particularly welcome.

We are very much looking forward to another exciting term of learning.

Our class assemblies are scheduled for:

U.K. 9am 7th June

Austria 9am 21st June

Please come along and see your children share their learning with the school.

Please come and speak to me if there are any concerns this term.

Forest School sessions will continue every Wednesday.

Dates for this term

Ingfield U.K. Wednesday 9th May 9.30am - 2pm

Austria Wednesday 16th May 9.30am - 2pm

Dell Quay - Tuesday 5th June ALL DAY

The Foundation Stage Team