



Class 1 Newsletter: Spring Term 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a peaceful, happy Christmas. Thank you for all your kind words, cards and gifts - they were all very much appreciated. It has been lovely to see the children again and I am very excited to be embarking on the next stage of their learning journeys, as we head into Spring Term.

P.E.

Our P.E. lessons will continue to be on a Wednesday, so please send your children to school in full P.E. kit on these days.

Reading

Reading and library books will be changed every Friday. Please make a note in their reading records each time you or another adult listens to your child read at home. Regular, daily practice is vital to ensure that they progress and grow in confidence and fluency. In addition to our daily phonics sessions, all children will read in a small group at least three times a week. Just to remind you, the parents' information for Little Wandle (our phonics scheme) can be found here: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Handwriting

I will be encouraging a lot of handwriting practice this term, alongside opportunities to promote fine and gross motor skills within the continuous provision. We will be guiding the children to form letters correctly, as incorrect formation can be more difficult to correct later on. In order for you to support your child with their handwriting, I am also attaching a unique login for our Handwriting scheme, LetterJoin, should you wish to practise at home.

R.E.

We begin our R.E lessons this term with Epiphany, and the Visit of the Magi to the Infant Jesus. As they came from afar, this teaches us that Jesus came for everyone. They came bearing gifts, so we will talk about our own unique gifts and how we can share them with others. Later, we will learn about the grown-up Jesus, and how he blessed the little children (again, this follows the theme of His being sent for everyone) and the feeding of the 5,000. These themes will feed into our holistic approach to Catholic Social Teaching: how we can use what we learn from these Gospel stories to prompt us to take steps to make change in today's world. I look forward to their ideas and responses.

In Spring 2, we will be learning about Lent and Easter, through a simple version of the key events of Holy Week. In Catholic Social Teaching, we will consider that every single person on Earth needs these things: food, water, work, clothes, a home, a school, and a doctor. Some people have what they need, but many people don't. Jesus wants the people who already have what they need to help these others.

R.S.H.E.

The children will participate in RSHE (Relationships, Sex & Health Education) lessons each week and work through the following units this term:

I Like, You Like, We All Like:

In this unit, the children will learn that we all have different tastes (likes and dislikes) but also similar needs (to be loved, respected and safe etc). The children will also learn that it is natural for us to relate and trust one another.

Good Feelings, Bad Feelings:

In this unit, children will develop a language to describe their feelings and understand that everyone

experiences feelings, both good and bad. The children will develop strategies for managing feelings.

Let's Get Real:

This unit helps children learn simple strategies for managing emotions and behaviour and that we have choices, and these choices can impact how we feel and respond. The children will also learn that we can say sorry and forgive like Jesus did.

Growing Up:

In this unit, the children will learn that there are natural life stages from birth to death and what these are.

Prayer Bear

This term, I will be sending 'Prayer Bear' home with a different child each Friday, to spend the weekend with them. He comes with a book to fill in about the time spent with the 'host' family. This is to encourage family times of prayer, reflection and gratitude - perhaps thinking about the week gone by and all the things for which we are grateful.

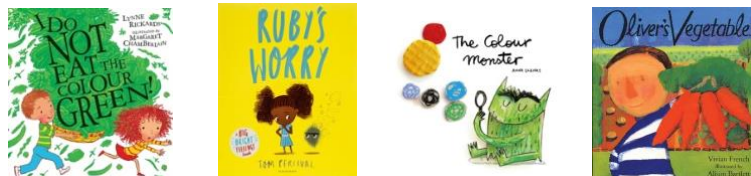


English and Topic

As I explained last term, in harmony with our Hygge approach, much of our learning is based around the natural world and the changing seasons. This term we are exploring Winter and - eventually - Spring. In the coming weeks, we will be learning about: trees in winter, hibernation, ice and snow. Alongside this, we will be learning about Polar Regions. We will make comparisons between the North and South Poles and where we live. We will be using a wide variety of texts to support our learning.



In Spring 2, We will be learning about Bungay and our local area. We will also be looking at how to keep our bodies and minds healthy. We will be learning about germs and how they spread, healthy food choices and how to stay fit. We will also be exploring the different feelings we have and how to recognise and manage these. These are some of the texts which will support our learning:



Cultural events that we are looking forward to exploring and celebrating with the children include Chinese New Year, World Book Day, International Women's Day, the Seik festival Vaisakhi and Mother's Day.

Maths

In Maths, we continue to follow White Rose alongside Mastering Number. We begin this term by introducing the concept of zero and progress to composition of 5, number bonds to 10 and the composition of numbers up to 10. We will also be learning about 3D shapes later on in the term and continuing with time and measure.

White Rose released a free app called '1-minute Maths'. It's very easy to use and is an accessible way of supporting your child's Maths learning at home. <https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/1-minute-maths#download>

The section on subitising is particularly appropriate in terms of what we are learning now, and the addition and subtraction will be helpful to practise as we move on in our learning this term.

Music/Computing/Spanish

In Computing, the children will be using software to create patterns and sort objects. During our Music lessons, the children will begin to learn to play their recorder. We practise Spanish during the afternoon registration. In Spanish, we will be creating a storyboard of 'La oruga muy hambrienta' (The Very Hungry Caterpillar). This will introduce days of the week and food. The storyboard will develop according to the children's interests as we progress.

Snacks

If you are sending snacks in with your child, please could you make sure that they are healthy and nut-free. No chocolate or crisps, please.

Parent Visits

Now that the children are settled into the routines of school, I'd like to invite you as parents to visit our class to watch your children as they engage in their learning. I'd like to invite you to a Phonics session, a Maths lesson and Drawing Club as well as some 'stay and play' sessions in Continuous Provision. It would be really helpful if you could kindly email the office the times in the week that you or another family member (e.g. grandparents) would be available, so that I can plan these and put them on the calendar. I can't promise to accommodate everyone, but I will do my best!

I will keep you updated about any day-to-day events via Tapestry, email and the school Newsletter. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me via the office or at pick-up if you need any more information or have any concerns.

Warmest regards,
Mrs Clarke