

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Foundation Stage – Spring term (1st half)



Happy New Year. Welcome to the Spring Term of 2020!

The children have already settled back into the routine of the school day after the holidays. We are very proud of how they come in everyday with such positive learning attitudes.

This term we welcome six new children and their families into Acorn class. We hope you will settle in quickly and soon feel part of our Foundation Stage at St Joseph's.

This term we begin with a topic called 'Ei Ei Dough.'

Our Literacy will all be linked to this topic using the story of 'The Little Red Hen.' We will be learning to 'read/tell' the story (with actions), writing labels, creating lists etc. The Oak children will be writing the story and we will all be inventing our own version of the story.

In Mathematics we will continue to number recognition, develop counting skills, early addition and subtraction skills using numbers up to 20. We will also work within the area of shape, space and measures (including work on length, time and money). This will mainly be explored through practical activities and also across our curriculum and environment. E.g. using the role play area.

For Creative development, as well as the roleplay and imaginative play, we will also be using different materials and media with which to explore colour, texture and design.

We will also continue to be physically active with our outdoor play, using bikes and trikes, obstacle courses, P.E sessions as well as movement and music.

Our Funky fingers sessions will continue to introduce the cursive writing style for those children that are ready as well as the fine motor activities from tweezers to pegs and threading beads/cheerio's onto different strings. Dough discos will continue to be a regular feature in our learning!

Our topics for Religious Education will be Christmas, Revelation – (introducing the role of the Church in getting to know God), Judaism, Lent and Holy Week.


We also plan to go on a visit to a farm this term.

We encourage the children to feel proud when they can achieve things by themselves. This includes taking responsibility for their own possessions. We are establishing routines whereby children are able to ensure snack pots, water bottles and book bags find their place in the classroom.


Grown-ups can help by encouraging children to put on their clothes, coats and shoes by themselves and by helping them to eat independently at meal times.


For those people who are new to Foundation – we always follow the lead and interest of our children so please keep an eye on The Foundation Class page on the school website which will show you how the topic develops and how busy we have been!

<http://www.stjosephsprimaryschool.com/website/foundation>

Oak Class -			
Subject	Sent home	Due in	Frequency
Oak Class home learning	Friday	Wednesday	Weekly
Reading 	<p>Your child will now be receiving three books each week that should be spread out over the week. This should include – reading, re-reading, discussing and retelling. Keep an eye out for a yellow reading record book which will have more information in it. Please ensure you write in this books to let us know your comments from home.</p> <p>Get them reading! We suggest you to read 3 times per week for 5 minutes at a time. Encourage your child to ‘sound it out’ and help them ‘blend’ the sounds together by repeating the sounds back to them. Practise really does make perfect!</p> <p>Get them writing! Encourage your child to write independently using their growing phonic skills. They could write shopping lists, cards, post-its, notes, messages, letters, little books and postcards – anything at all. It’s all great practise.</p>		

Reminders:

School lunch PLEASE  NO PEANUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS	<p>Oak children are entitled to a free school lunch every day. Thank you for selecting your menu choices already.</p> <p>For Acorn children a school lunch can be ordered at a cost of £2.35 School dinners must be ordered on Parent pay before 9am.</p> <p>We promote healthy eating at school and so lunch boxes should not contain more than one chocolate snack and one packet of crisps.</p> <p>Children are welcome to bring fresh fruit or vegetables for a snack at break time. We are a nut free school. We have children with potentially fatal nut allergies in school, therefore no food containing nuts may be sent into school.</p>
Drinks	<p>Your child must have a named water bottle in school every day. Please only send in water, no juice or fizzy is allowed.</p>
Uniform	<p>Please ensure all uniform is clearly named.</p> <p>Grey trousers or shorts, grey skirt or pinafore dress, Black, white or grey socks, grey tights, White polo shirt, Green logo school sweatshirt or cardigan. Warm weather option – green and white gingham dress (dress with shorts instead of skirt is acceptable)</p> <p>Hair past shoulder length must be tied back – please use plain hairbands in green, black or white, not brightly coloured bows.</p> <p>Nail varnish is not allowed.</p> <p>School shoes must be black and no heels, trainers or boots.</p>
PE kit (Oak class only)	<p>Green t-shirt with school logo, black shorts, jogging bottoms and trainers. All kit must be named and in a named bag.</p> <p>Ear rings must be removed or covered with tape for PE lessons.</p> <p>Watches must be removed for PE.</p> <p>PE kit must be in school every day.</p>

 <p>Wellies</p>	Please ensure your child has a pair of clearly named wellie boots that can be kept in school this will enable the children to explore outside without getting their school shoes muddy!
Bags	Reception, Yr 1 and 2 children must have a book bag in school. This is so books can easily be checked and letters put in. Children can have a bag or rucksack in school but please avoid the large bulky ones as 30 rucksacks take up a lot of room in the class.
Mornings	Our Foundation Stage doors are open from around 8:45am. Please pass on any quick messages then, for a longer meeting please make an appointment. When you arrive in the morning please support your child with sorting their belongings and then settle your child to an activity. The tambourine rings at 9:05am for us to begin our hello circle. Children and parents arriving after 9.00am will be asked to sign in at the office.
After school	Acorn (Nursery) children finish at 3:15pm and Oak (Reception) children finish at 3.30pm. If someone other than yourself is collecting your child please ensure the office has their details. We will not let them leave unless we are sure they are safe. Acorn parents- Please ensure you are on time at 3:15pm as staff have to move through to the Oak room and get things sorted for the After School Club that takes place in the Acorn classroom.
Contact details	Please ensure you contact details and those of other people who may collect your child are always kept up to date. Please see the office asap if you change your phone number or address.

Key dates for Foundation Stage:

Date	Time	Event
January		
Monday 6 th January	8.55am	Children return to school after Christmas holidays
Monday 6 th January	11.00am	Epiphany Mass in school everyone welcome
Thursday 23 rd January	Various times	'Space Cats' Boo to a Goose theatre production
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 27 th -30 th January	3.40 – 5.50pm	Parents' evenings, appointments will be issued. Times are limited so please only rearrange if absolutely necessary.
February		
Friday 7 th February	3.30pm	Cake sale – Mrs Strode raising money for pre-eclampsia
Tuesday 11 th February	All day	Safer Internet day
Monday 17th – Monday 24th February HALF TERM		
Monday 24 th February	All day	Non-pupil day
March		
W/beginning 2 nd March	3.40pm	SEND parents' evenings – appointments will be issued
Thursday 5 th March	All day	World Book Day. Children to come in dressed up as a book character of their choice with the corresponding book to share in class. £1 donation to go towards reading books for classes.
Wednesday 18 th March	All day	Governors day
Friday 27 th March	3.30pm	Children finish for Easter holidays
EASTER HOLIDAYS 30th March – 13th April		

From now on to cut down on paper usage we will only email these class letters out. Please ensure the office has your current email address and let us know if you require a paper copy.

If you are able to support our learning with resources or would like to help in class, please let a member of staff know. We value your involvement in your child's education.

We recognise the importance of passing information between parents and school so please remember our door is always open and you can come and talk to us if you have any questions and concerns.

Yours sincerely,

The Foundation Stage Team.