

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Foundation Stage – Autumn term (2nd half)



Wow! What a busy term we have had so far. We have had so many great learning experiences since we started school – too many to mention here so please have a look on The Foundation Class page on the school website which will show you how busy we been!

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

We are really pleased with the progress the Oak children have made in learning all their letter sounds. The challenge now, is to use this understanding, in their reading and writing. We have been working on our segmenting (sound talking to spell) and blending (using the sounds we hear to read word) skills.

Nearly all children can now blend sounds spoken by an adult into a word **c-a-t = cat, s-o-ck = sock,**

The next step will be to be able to do this independently.

The children have found it more challenging to segment words (a skill they will need for writing) **jam = many say j-am rather than j-a-m. or crash = most children said cr-a-sh** rather than **c-r-a-sh**. Working on these skills at home would be beneficial to them.


Have a look in your child's Home Learning pack for their 'alphabet card.' We encourage your child to always find one of these when they are writing at school. The children are all at different levels when using the alphabet card. Some children will need your support to find the letter that represents the sound they can hear when sound talking. Others will be able to find the letter and record it more independently.

Your child does not need to copy your adult writing unless practising actual handwriting. Giving children the opportunity to sound out their own words is a higher level skill and more important for independent writing. At this stage it does not matter if all the sounds are not there.



The word 'garden' would look like – gn or grn or grdn

Spelling becomes more accurate as children progress with their reading.

Certain words such as the common exception words do need to be spelt correctly and can be copied from your tricky word bookmark.

Oak Class -			
Subject	Sent home	Due in	Frequency
Oak Class home learning	Friday	Wednesday	Weekly
Reading 	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. The yellow reading record book has more information in it. Please ensure you write in this books to let us know your comments from home. Reading at home is a very important part of your child's education and we hope it will be an enjoyable experience for you all.		

Reminders:

<p>School lunch</p> <p>PLEASE</p>  <p>NO PEANUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS</p>	<p>Oak children are entitled to a free school lunch every day. Thank you for selecting your menu choices already. You can send a packed lunch if you prefer.</p> <p>For Acorn children a school lunch can be ordered daily at a cost of £2.35 Please complete a menu choice form available and pay on ParentPay.</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>
<p>Drinks</p>	<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>
<p>Uniform</p>	<p>Please ensure all uniform is clearly named.</p> <p>Grey trousers or shorts, grey skirt or pinafore dress, 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>
<p>PE kit</p>	<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 should be worn to school on a Friday.</p>
<p>Wellies</p> 	<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!</p>
<p>Bags</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Mornings</p>	<p>Our Foundation Stage doors are open from 8:45am. Please pass on any quick messages then, for a longer meeting please make an appointment.</p> <p>Children and parents arriving after 9.05am will be asked to sign in at the office.</p> <p>We are very impressed with how independent the children have been this term with sorting their belongings. Thank you for your help with ensuring their snack and bottles are easily accessible and support them with putting on their own coats and shoes.</p>
<p>After school</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Contact details</p>	<p>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.</p>

We have already begun this half term with our topic of Bonfire night. Next week we carry on with more history when we base our learning around Remembrance Day. We will then move onto a short block on the story of the Enormous Turnip. For this we will be rehearsing the story so the children are able to re-tell the story using the correct story language and sequencing.

Finally we will move onto Advent and the Christmas Story. We are unsure at the moment what our Christmas learning and celebrations will look like but please be reassured that the children will have a lovely fun lead up to Christmas with lots of great Christmas crafts and activities around the Nativity Story.

A final message that as the weather is cooling down and we continue to ventilate the classrooms, including leaving the doors and windows open at break time. This can mean that our classrooms can get quite chilly at times. Please ensure your child has sufficient layers on to ensure they are warm.

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.