



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School - Reception – Spring 1st



“Seeking Growth Together Through Jesus”

Literacy



Our phonics and early reading skills are delivered through ‘Read, Write, Inc’; however these skills will also be incorporated throughout all our areas of provision in Reception.

In line with our phonics programme, during this term, we aim to be blending sounds to be able to read words and starting to read short, simple stories containing the sounds that we have been learning. We will be continuing to practise our letter formation, using letter formation rhymes to help us to form our letters correctly.

In our season-themed topic of ‘Winter Wonderland’, we will be reading a variety of stories, such as ‘Snowballs, The Snowflake Mistake, Secrets of Winter, Winter’s Child and The Snow Queen’, exploring characters, settings and themes. We will be using these stories, alongside other aids as a stimulus for our writing.

Reading for pleasure is at the heart of our curriculum and we encourage our parents to share stories with their children every single day to help develop a love of reading and broaden and expand their vocabulary.

Maths



In Maths this half-term, we will be using and applying the number name zero and its numeral 0 in a variety of contexts, both inside and outside in our learning. We will be comparing numbers up to 5, understanding that one quantity can be more than, the same as or fewer than another quantity. We will be exploring the composition of 4 and 5, continuing to develop our skills of subitising (*instantly recognising smaller quantities without counting*) and recognising that the numbers 4 and 5 can be made up of two parts or more than two parts (*eg: 5 can be made up of 1 and 1 and 3, or 3 and 2, or 4 and 1 etc...*). We will then move on to the numbers 6, 7 and 8, representing these numbers in different ways, ordering and comparing numbers, combining amounts and making pairs. We will also be comparing mass and capacity, as well as using language to describe length and height when making comparisons. We will be ordering and sequencing important times and events in our everyday lives too!

Understanding of the World



During our topic of ‘Winter Wonderland’, we will be exploring the season of Winter and observing how the world around us has changed since the season of Autumn. We will go on an environment walk of our local area and look for changes, using ipads to capture our observations. We will be plotting our walk around the local area on a simple map and using this to share our learning. During this topic, we will also be looking at other countries *Eg: Antarctica* and comparing similarities and differences between this country and our own, naming and describing some of the features of these countries. We will be exploring ice through a range of activities and observing what happens as it melts and changes. We will also be learning about the types of animals that live in colder climates and how they are suited to their environment. We will also learn that people have different beliefs, depending on their backgrounds and that they celebrate special times of the year in different ways, *Eg: Chinese New Year and Easter*.

Religious Education



In Reception, our curriculum driver words are to:

- Recognise
- Talk about
- Begin to retell

In this half-term’s overarching topic of ‘Getting to Know Jesus’, the children will:

- Experience and come to know that Jesus tells us about God His Father.
- Experience liturgical celebrations in a variety of simple settings. (Epiphany).
- Learn to say sorry.

The children will be becoming more familiar with Bible stories, such as **Noah’s Ark** (*Genesis*) and the theme of Reconciliation in **The Prodigal Son** (*Luke 15: 11-32*). Children will learn the following prayers and Mass responses:

- Our Father Prayer
- Hail Mary Prayer
- Morning and evening prayers
- In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...
- ... and with your Spirit





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Communication and Language

In Reception this half-term, we will be applying our listening skills in a range of learning situations, such as listening to winter-themed stories and discussing non-fiction books, such as *‘The Story of Snow’*. Throughout our *‘Winter Wonderland’* topic, we will be engaging with a variety of fiction and non-fiction stories all about the season of Winter and the changes that surround us. As we engage in these stories and related activities, we will be starting to maintain attention for longer periods of time. When using partner-talk and sharing our learning, we will be considering the listener and taking turns to speak and to be a good listener, using the principles of our *‘Good Listening’* song. Throughout the environment, we will be using talk in our play, engaging in role-play, winter-themed tuff-trays, story baskets, story pebble activities etc... We will be beginning to use past tense when recounting events that have happened, using words like *yesterday, walked, ran, sang etc...* and extending vocabulary related to our *‘Winter Wonderland’* topic.



Expressive Arts and Design



In our topic of *‘Winter Wonderland’*, there will be lots of opportunities to express ourselves creatively using 2D and 3D art. We will be creating spirals to make our own twirling snowflakes, mark-making in snow and glitter, creating our very own snowflakes out of small parts and creating winter beading patterns, which will also develop our fine-motor skills. We will share our wonderful winter creations with our friends and talk about how we have made them.

In the playdough area, we will be making our own winter wonderland playdough using peppermint and glitter and using this to make our own winter wonderland creations.

There will be lots of *‘Winter Wonderland’* small world opportunities in our tuff trays, which will be linked to our winter-themed stories. It is here that we will be able to use our imagination at its best and create our own stories with our friends, using different props and materials. We will also be continuing to perform our Nursery Rhymes and joining in with songs and actions.

Physical Development



Physical development is built into our daily learning activities in Reception. We develop our fine and gross motor skills through a variety of activities; our fine-motor skills are developed using a range of small tools such as scissors, paintbrushes, chalk, tweezers and manipulating substances such as playdough etc... Our gross-motor skills are developed on the trim-trail, balancing, moving in different ways, building large construction, rolling tyres etc... This half-term, we will be focusing on the fundamental movement skill of traveling and moving in a variety of ways.

PSED



Our Physical, Social and Emotional skills will be developed this half-term as we begin to express our pride in school achievements, such as being awarded certificates in assembly. We will continue to demonstrate our understanding of our school rules of being *Ready, Respectful and Safe* and will try hard to earn stars for our *‘Star Jar’* for going Above and Beyond. We will also understand that when we do not make good choices, there needs to be a consequence and we will try hard to be more independent and look out for opportunities to engage in play with our friends.

RHE



Reception will be developing their social, moral, cultural and spiritual awareness and understanding:

I Like, You Like, We ALL Like – Builds on themes of similarities and differences by helping children consider what likes and dislikes they have in common.

Good Feelings, Bad Feelings – Using pictures and short stories, children discuss feelings, what they can look like and why they might have them. They will also work on empathy, understanding of others and how to help.

Let’s Get Real – Looks at a real-life example of a challenging situation. Children will engage creatively, learning that actions have consequences; that when we make mistakes, we should say sorry and ask for forgiveness.

Seeking Growth Together



During *‘Seeking Growth Together’* time, we will focus on exploring:

- Rule of Law (*British Values*)
- Democracy (*British Values*)
- Health and Wellbeing
- Gospel Values
- Mutual Respect (*British Values*)
- Global Learning

Our creative approach to teaching *‘Seeking Growth Together’* will be led by our school *‘drivers’* including; *Oracy, Metacognition, P4C, Journaling and Communication Friendly strategies* throughout our teaching.