



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School - Reception – Spring 2nd



“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 confidently blending sounds, reading words and 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 ‘Nig Beasts’, we will be reading a variety of stories, such as ‘Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs, Dinosaur Bones, If I Had a Dinosaur, The Knight Who Wouldn’t Fight and Zog’, 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 continuing to apply our counting skills, building the numbers 9 and 10, representing them in different ways and exploring their composition. We will be using tens frames to represent numbers to 10, lining objects up as we count them and using 1:1

correspondence to compare different amounts. We will begin by comparing two quantities then move on to ordering three or more quantities. As the term progresses, we will be exploring number bonds to 10 using real objects in different contexts and a variety of other manipulatives, such as counting beads and numicon.

We will be continuing to explore 3D shapes through our play, manipulating and constructing 3D shapes through block play and modelling. We will be introduced to the names of these 3D shapes and will identify similarities and differences between them. We will be building upon our earlier work on pattern during the Autumn Term, as we begin to explore more complex patterns in our environment.

Understanding of the World



During our topic of ‘Big Beasts’, we will be exploring big beasts (such as dragons and dinosaurs) but also following the interests of our children with this topic too! We will be finding out about different types of dinosaurs and learning about herbivores and carnivores, sorting dinosaurs into plant/meat eaters. We will be learning about the habitats of some of our big beasts and other animals – finding out whether they live on the land, in the sea or in the air. We will be exploring ice and using salt to help the dinosaurs escape from the ice eggs. We will continue to observe how the world around us is changing as we move into the season of Spring and 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. 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: The events of Holy Week.

Religious Education



In Reception, our curriculum driver words are to:

- Recognise
- Talk about
- Begin to retell

In this half-term’s overarching topic of ‘Sorrow and Joy’ the children will:

- Experience and recognise prayer is talking and listening to God.
- Experience praying with others as a celebration.
- Hear the story of Easter.
- Experience celebrations in a variety of simple settings (e.g. stations of the cross, service of sorrow)

The children will be becoming more familiar with Bible stories, such as **Story of Easter** (Luke 22: 7-13), **Our Father** (Matthew 6: 9-13) and **Stations** (Mark 15, Luke 2). Children will learn the following prayers and Mass responses:

- Our Father Prayer
- Hail Mary Prayer
- 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

Through this half-term’s topic of ‘Big Beasts’, we will be continuing to use our good listening skills as we listen to and engage in a variety of stories and non-fiction related to our topic.



We will use lots of partner talk to help work out problems in our play, such as excavating the dinosaur bones from the dinosaur swamp and working out which dinosaurs they might have come from and why.

We will use our talk to explain how things work and why they might happen, such as

We will be encouraged to ask questions to help us find out more about our topic and will explore these questions through lots of partner-talk in our learning through a variety of play experiences, such as dinosaur swamps, small world set-ups such as castles and caves.

We will continue to broaden our vocabulary around our topic of ‘Big Beasts’ and will use this vocabulary to make connections.

As we talk about our learning, we will be encouraged to add detail and make use of our new vocabulary.

Expressive Arts and Design



In our topic of ‘Big Beasts’, there will be lots of opportunities to express ourselves creatively using 2D and 3D art.

We will be using junk-materials to build our own castles and caves for the beasts to hide, creating our own clay creatures using natural materials, building our own small world areas such as a dinosaur land/swamp or a dragon’s den. We will be using different tools and materials for printing to create dragon scales, making dinosaur fossils out of salt dough and making dinosaurs and dragons out of small parts. We will share our brave and beastly creations with our friends and talk about how we have made them.

There will be lots of ‘Big Beasts’ small world opportunities set up in our tuff trays too, which will be linked to our 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 throughout this term too!

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 space and having a special awareness of others.



PSED



Our Physical, Social and Emotional skills will be developed this half-term as we continue to make choices, such as our daily book vote for our class story and choosing our own learning. We will be encouraged to communicate our needs to adults in the environment and to keep trying when we find things difficult instead of giving up! In our play, we will be encouraged to cooperate, listen, speak and explain if needed. We will begin to reflect on our own work and the work of our friends by saying what is good about it and how we could make it better next time.

RHE



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

Growing Up – Helps children explore the cycle of life, focusing on what children can remember about their development so far and what they know will happen as they get older.

Who’s Who? - Helps children learn and apply names to different family relationships, as well as ‘special people’ who they can trust.

You’ve Got a Friend in Me - Discusses the qualities of positive/negative relationships. Children expand their vocabulary and learn to look to Jesus as a role model for friendship.

Forever Friends - Helps children consider how to resolve conflict in friendships through saying sorry and asking for/receiving 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.