

RECEPTION - SPRING 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2024



"Happy together in God's family,
we love, grow and learn."

www.stmaryshorsforth.org

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after the Christmas break, I hope you have all had a wonderful time with family and friends.

This half term our topic is winter, looking at animals that live in cold countries, investigating what happens when water is frozen and then warmed and the differences between living in a hot and a cold countries.

PE changes: Please note that our PE days have changed to Monday and Thursday.

Class Mass: We are having a joint class Mass with Year 3 on the 26th of January, this will be held in church @9.30am, and all are welcome.

Class assembly: We are having an Y6 buddy assembly on the 8th of February, starting at 9.05am in the school hall.

Stay and Play: Friday the 9th of February is our next class stay and play, between 2-3pm. We will follow the same format as last time, so please only one adult due to space and no siblings wherever possible, thank you.

Tapestry / Twitter: Thank you to everyone that added to your child's Tapestry account during the last half term, especially the travelling crib pictures, the children loved sharing them. If your child visits the dentist do please add photos so we can continue our oral health learning which a huge part of the Early Years Framework is. If you have not yet logged into the school twitter feed please do, so you can see all the exciting activities and learning the whole school gets up to and keep you apart of the school community.

Thank you for your continued support, Miss A Roberts.

Important Days

Monday

Please return reading books

Monday & Thursday

PE kits

Important Dates

26.1.24 @9.30am
Reception & Y3 class
Mass

8.2.24 @9.05am
Reception and Year 6
class assembly*

9.2.24 2pm Stay and
play

9.2.24 School closes

18.2.24 @11.00am
Family Mass

Phonics and Literacy

This half term in phonics we will be starting Level 2 sounds and focusing on digraphs/trigraphs and building on our knowledge of graphemes already learnt. We will continue working on reading CVC, CVVC, CCVC, CVCC words and developing our knowledge of sight-reading high frequency words to increase our reading fluency.

Within Literacy, we will be starting a new format that follows the rest of the school; (Philip Webb) this involves 3 stages - 1. Prediction, 2. Understanding, 3. Writing. This is to increase the children's knowledge of the structure of stories and develop their writing skills. We will also be reading poems and using fact books.

We will continue to work on pencil grip, writing their names, letter formation and using their phonic knowledge to support them when segmenting and writing words.

Physical Development

The topic is gymnastics, we will be looking for skills to be able to respond to different stimuli, explore movements, and improve coordination, balance and timing.

We will continue to work on our fine motor skills through play and focused activities to help us with our writing and cutting skills.

RE

This half term, the topic is "Getting to know Jesus". Children will be given opportunities to become aware that Jesus has a great love for each one of us and will think of ways in which we can show our love for Jesus. They will hear that Jesus cured people who were sick and think of ways we can show our love for sick people.

We will link our virtue learning into how God and Jesus wants us to live our lives and help other people just as Jesus helped others.

The Foundation Stage



Spring Half-Term 1



Mathematics

This term we will continue learning number 7-10, so the children have a comprehensive understanding of each number. Looking at 1 more, 1 less, sequencing, number patterns / bonds, addition and subtraction using 10 frames, part-part whole model and number sentences.

In space, shape and measure we will be working on length, weight and capacity. We will revisit 2d shapes and start looking at 3d shapes talking about their properties. We will be talking about spatial awareness and positional language looking for shapes in the environment and going on treasure hunts.

Topic: Winter

This half term we are focusing on Winter. The small world will turn into an arctic winter wonderland scene. The role play area will link into our literacy stories to promote language and communication, friendship and sharing.

We will be carrying out different activities and investigations which will support their skills to problem solve and their knowledge of understanding the world around them.

PSED

Each week in circle time to discuss the school's weekly 'virtues to live by' which this half term are faith & simplicity.

We also chat about topical issue or something that has happened during the week, which will develop the children's knowledge of how to handle different social or emotional situations. We link this into the story of the Colourful Chameleon.