

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Merry Hill Road, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 1SU

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Email: admin@sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk

Head teacher: Mrs Rebecca Tregear



Friday, 15 September 2017

Welcome to our first Reception Curriculum letter for this academic year 2017-2018. The children have settled in well. They are learning to adapt to new routines as well as making new relationships.

The Reception Unit this year is being led by Mrs Stapleton, Mrs Simpson and Mrs Leavey as well as a team of Teaching Assistants.

It can be very difficult to talk in the morning as handover can be very busy and we want your children to be safe. Therefore if you need to talk to any of us; please feel free to make an appointment for the end of the day.

A typical day in Reception:

- Fine motor activities
- Phonics
- Adult directed sessions
- Snack
- Child-led learning (free flow)
- Adult directed sessions (Literacy and Maths)
- Storytelling

There are seven aspects to the Early Year's Curriculum these are:

Personal, social and emotional development

Communication and Language

Physical development-currently our PE day will be a Wednesday-ALL clothing and PE kits MUST be clearly labelled.

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding of the world

Expressive arts and design

In the 'Early Years' children learn through exploring and experiences. As practitioners we observe and interact with children. We then respond to the children's learning needs.

If you have any resources that you wish to share with the class please send them in with a name tag so that they can be safely returned.

Although we are currently enjoying reasonably settled weather, it is always subject to frequent change. Please ensure that children have the appropriate **clearly named** clothing whether it is sun hats in sunshine or rain coats and wellington boots in the rain. Please be reminded that children should have a pair of clearly names wellington boots to be kept in school.



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Our school has been awarded Healthy Schools Status. If your child is having a packed lunch, we do not have bars of chocolate or crisps except on Friday, as a treat.

Phonics is taught daily in a pacy, interactive and fun way. Children will be learning several sounds a week. Phonics is very important as it forms one of the major strategies children will use to decode new words.

Reading is an important part of school life. When the children are ready and secure in their first few sets of sounds they will begin to take a book home. Your child will be given a specific day to change books. We ask that you communicate your child's progress in their reading record. If reading records are not signed then their book will not be changed.

At Sacred Heart, we use cursive writing. This means letters have a lead in and a tail out. When writing cursorily we always start from the line. A copy of written letters can be found with your curriculum letter.

How you can help at home -

Practise letter sounds and words that are sent home. Look at letters and words on signs. Take a trip to your local library and borrow some books. Write birthday cards and shopping lists in emergent writing. Look at numbers in the environment such as number plates etc. take walks and observe the world around you, using all of your senses. Talk about shapes in the environment. Play board and card games. Practise counting. Involve your child with cooking where possible and helping out around the house. Develop independence by encouraging them to sort their own things out in the house each morning.

We look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Lorraine Stapleton and Liz Simpson

