

Nursery



CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2019-2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our Curriculum Newsletter for this academic year. In this newsletter we will give you a brief outline of our topics for each half term and provide some information on our daily routines and how you can support your child this year.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Within the EYFS theme of Learning and Development there are three Prime Areas and four Specific Areas. The three Prime Areas underpin effective learning and development in the Specific Areas.

Prime Areas

- ◆ Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSE)
- ◆ Physical Development (PD)
- ◆ Communication & Language (CL)

Specific Areas

- ◆ Literacy (L)
- ◆ Mathematics (M)
- ◆ Understanding the World (UW)
- ◆ Expressive Arts & Design (EAD)

Evidence Me

Your child's learning experiences are recorded on our Evidence me (2simple) app which are emailed half termly. You can also contribute by recording comments and 'WOW' moments at home. These can be emailed directly back to an email previously sent. It is easy to take a photo and upload.

If you are not signed up for 'Evidence Me' and would like to, please check with Mrs Tizzard. If you prefer not to be emailed then please see your class teacher for some paper 'WOW' moments that can be added to your child's learning journal folder.

Religious Education

Nursery children do not join the main school for Mass, instead we celebrate key liturgical moments with our own assemblies and liturgies. These will include joining Nursery for a Harvest assembly, Christmas play and to celebrate our Feast Day as well as joining Key Stage One for a 'Lenten Liturgy'

Autumn 1: In the Beginning	Autumn 2: Advent to Christmas
Spring 1: Sacramental people	Spring 1: Sacramental People
Summer 1: Easter to Pentecost	Summer 2: A Virtuous Life

How you can help.

At home discuss how we show you are ready for prayer.

At church talk about the colours that you can see on the altar and what Father is wearing.

Our Themes

Autumn 1: Our Bodies	Autumn 2: Let's Celebrate
Spring 1: Changes	Spring 2: Around the World
Summer 1: People Who Help Us	Summer 2: On the Move

Underpinning the Early Years Curriculum are the three prime areas of **Communication and language**, **Physical Development** and **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**.

- ♦ In everything we do we are learning to communicate with others, listening and demonstrating our understanding, showing how attentive we are and developing

Daily Routines

As the children progress throughout the year the daily timetable will also adapt to the children's changing needs. Here is a general plan of our day. This is a typical timetable by the end of Nursery.

8:40-9:00: Busy fingers, activities designed to improve fine motor skills, these may include; cutting, drawing, threading.

9:00-9:15: Disco dough, dancing with ribbons and meditation. Followed by the class prayer and daily reflection

9:15-9:25: Carpet time—This is when we focus on a theme that we are learning or we have religious education reflection time.

9:25-9:40: Group time- This is when we have small group focus for the specific areas of the EYFS curriculum. Such as literacy and Mathematics.

10:00- 11:10: 'Free flow' The children have time to choose their own activities and can move between the classrooms and the early year's garden.

11:10-11:30: Rhyme and story time.
Morning children go home

Lunch

1:00-1:20: Quiet time

1:40- 3:20: Free flow with Reception, followed by story and time to get ready to go home.

Phonics

Phase 1 phonics: The aim of this Phase is to encourage children's speaking and listening skills as preparation for learning to read with phonics. We play games such as silly soup, alliteration station, body percussion etc. Our focus with these is for the children to tune into the sounds they can hear.

Parents can play a vital role in helping their children develop these skills, by encouraging their children to listen carefully and talk extensively about what they hear, see and do.

Mathematics

Numbers

- Select a small number of objects from a group, when asked can recite some number names in sequence.
- Use some number names accurately in play
- Knows that numbers identify how many objects are in a set
- Sometimes matches numeral and quantity correctly
- Recognise numerals 1 - 5
- Show an interest in number problems
- Show an interest in numerals in the environment



Shape, Space and Measure.

- Notice simple shapes and patterns in pictures.
- Show interest in shape by sustained construction activity or by talking about shapes or arrangements.
- Selects a particularly named shape

At Home

To support the children's development, it would be very helpful if parents could continue to practise counting with the children at home. This can include:

- ♦ Counting jumps
- ♦ Counting steps
- ♦ Counting a small group of toys

Children can also be further extending through simple addition and subtraction.

- ♦ 1 more than
- ♦ 1 less than
- ♦ Combining two groups to find out how many we have altogether

Physical Development

This is one of the 'Prime Areas' in the Early years Curriculum. We will be developing both gross motor skills and fine motor skills.

Most days start with a 'Busy Finger' session, where the children are encouraged to work on their fine motor skills to strengthen their muscles and aid letter and number formation.

During the day the children have lots of opportunities to develop their gross motor skills both in the Early Year's Garden and the main playground. In addition to this we will have our focussed PE lessons on a Wednesday morning. **The children do not need a PE kit.**

At Home

Encourage the use of drawing, cutting and baking to develop lots of hand eye coordination skills. Use large toys such as bikes and scooters to develop spatial awareness and coordination. Visit parks and encourage climbing and other activities which continue to build upper body strength e.g. swinging on ropes, monkey bars, and using poles.

Encourage your child to dress independently, practise tricky things like buttons at home.



Understanding the World

Exploring the world in which we live is an important concept for our young children. Later in their school life this area will become subjects like Citizenship, Science, Geography, History and Technology. The children investigate their outdoor environment in great detail . This will include:

- ◆ Commenting and asking questions about their familiar world
- ◆ Talking about things that they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects
- ◆ Developing an understanding of growth and decay
- ◆ Begin to show concern for living things and the environment

The children will also continue to explore significant events in their own experiences and recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends.

At Home

To explore this area further it would be very helpful for children to investigate their outdoor environment, this includes lots of walks in the park describing what they can see and how it changes between seasons.

Expressive Arts and Design

Exploring and using media and materials

- Show an interest in the way musical instruments sound
- Enjoy joining in with dancing and ring games
- Sing few familiar songs
- Beginning to move rhythmically
- Uses various construction materials
- Realises tools can be used for a purpose

Being Imaginative

- Beginning to use representation to communicate
- Beginning to make believe by pretending
- Uses movement to express feelings
- Sings to self and makes up simple songs
- Notices what adults do imitating what is observed and doing it spontaneously when adults are not there

We need a steady supply of materials that the children can use with their modelling. Clean boxes, cartons, left over ribbons from presents, fronts of birthday cards, unwanted stationery, party invitations and envelopes all help to add interest to role play areas, writing areas and the junk modelling areas.

Nursery trips

The children will be visiting the local post office to post their own Christmas cards in December. They will go in the groups they are in, in the Nursery.

Monday 2nd December 2019— Matthew

Tuesday 3rd December 2019 -Mark

Wednesday 4th December 2019 -Luke

Thursday 5th December 2019—John



Nursery will be visiting the local allotments and the park on Wednesday 14th July as a whole class. We will need a 2:1 ratio to travel off site. If you can help please let us know at the door. We will have a list at the door nearer to the time. The more the merrier! We will leave school at 9:15 and will return for 11:15 and have a class picnic on the field.

How you can help your child and the school;

- ◆ Label all clothing with names including coats, PE kits and plimsolls.
- ◆ Label water bottles with your child's name
- ◆ Named pair of wellingtons to stay in school
- ◆ Outdoor water proof clothing to enabling access to the garden all year.
- ◆ Please do not put water bottles into 'Book bags' as our reading books can be expensive to replace.
- ◆ Read the main school newsletter to keep up to date with events and dates.

IF YOUR CHILD COMES HOME IN NURSERY SPARES AFTER BEING CHANGED THAT DAY, CAN THESE BE WASHED AND RETURNED TO NURSERY THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR OTHERS TO USE! THEY SHOULD BE MARKED NURSERY AT THE BACK IN BLACK PEN SO PLEASE CHECK AT HOME. ALTERNATIVELY WE WELCOME DONATIONS!



The children have PE on Wednesday. Please make sure they are wearing socks and velcro shoes on this day so that they can be easily removed before and after PE.

Every Wednesday the children will change their library book. Please have their book bag, with their reading book and reading record in their bags so that they can be changed.

Message from the Nursery team:

The children have settled very well into Nursery life at Sacred Heart. Sometimes, the corridor can get very busy with parents in the mornings, which means the Nursery team cannot get to the children that need support with detachment and settling. Please now encourage your child to say goodbye to you at the door and let them be as independent as they can. This is a huge part of their Nursery learning!

If you have any concerns or questions please feel free to arrange a meeting with me, or catch me at the door in the morning.

Teacher : Ms Tizzard
Early Years Practitioner: Mrs Galvin
Teaching assistant: Mrs Zajac.

