



# Curriculum Newsletter

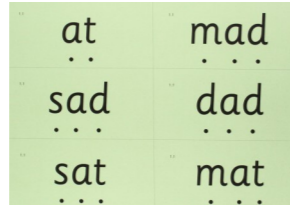
## Spring: Reception

Our Christian value this term is:



### Phonics

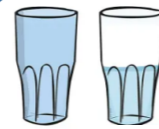
We will continue to have short, snappy phonics sessions each day to help your child in recognising Set 1 sounds with more confidence and speed. We are reading words containing these sounds too and using our phonic knowledge to spell simple words. We will be focusing on our 'special friends' more too, which is when one sound is made from two letters (sh, ch, th, nk, ng.)



Oral blending is key and something we will practise continuously. This is when your child can hear my sounds when 'Fred talking', blending them into a word. You can try this at home lots too. Please see some helpful tips and videos using the link below:

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

### Mathematics



To begin, we will be consolidating our previous learning of numbers up to 5. We will be looking at how these numbers look on a fives and tens frame, recognising these numbers quickly and matching the numerals to the quantity. With those numbers embedded, we will continue with numbers beyond 5, making 6,7 and 8 in different ways and understanding that we can combine two groups together to make a bigger amount. We will explore mass and use everyday language such as heavy and light, making comparisons and enjoying practical maths with our balancing scales! We will also enjoy earning all about capacity in our water tray.

Closer to Easter, we will become familiar with making 9 and 10 and begin to grasp and recall our number bonds to 10.



### Communication & Language

Plenty of stories, looking at books, listening and attention games will all help to develop this prime area of learning for all. It is absolutely crucial that we make time for those back and forth interactions with our children, as their vocabulary and conversations grow and develop.

We will revisit familiar books and look at new ones together., along with learning poems and nursery rhymes too.

**Writing:** Now that we have covered most of Set 1 sounds, we will be encouraging the children to form these letters correctly. Direct teaching of handwriting, using the fun, memorable rhymes to help with formation, will hopefully embed ho to write these letters independently.



Most children can write their first names now and these are recognisable, so again, it is about perfecting their letter formation when writing their names. We will continue to encourage lots of writing and mark making within the provision and help our little ones make sense of the marks they make on paper are their early, emergent writing pieces. When teaching writing, we will be encouraging the children to record their own ideas in simple sentences, using lots of modelling and offering plenty of reassurance to promote confidence and a willingness to simply have a go! We will be introducing some 'red, tricky' words too, to help them write their simple sentences.



### Understanding the World

We will be exploring different types of materials in our free play and using magnets, magnifying glasses and our senses to learn more about these.

As Spring approaches, we will be planting seeds, observing natural changes and learning about growth and change.

We will e learning all about the continent, Australia and what it might be like to live/visit there. We will look at an atlas and a globe and understand where this continent is in relation to where we are. We will learn about different Australian animals too.

Australian artefacts from bth the past and present will generate lost of discussion and we wull be learning all about James Cook, looking at simple maps of his jouey around the world.

### Religious Education

#### Why is the word God important to Christians?



We will be exploring the story of Creation and God's very important part in the creation of the universe and all that is in it. We will be discussing Christian beliefs of God being behind everything there is in the world. We will think about how we can make sure we look after our wonderful world and our responsibilities to God's creation.

**Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?** We will learn more about the most important festival of the year for Christians and Jesus' last days on Earth, from Palm Sunday to his resurrection.

We will explore the symbol of the cross and how this can mean lots of things, such as forgiveness, a new start and hope for the future.

## Expeditions:

““Would I rather...?”



Our PE days are: **Tuesday and Thursday.** Please note that these days are new and are effective from Week Beginning 9th January 2023

Please look at your child's **Home Learning** book for ways to support their education—this includes our minimum expectations as well as lots of ideas for additional activities. **This will be sent out next week.**

**Playing & Exploring** As always, plenty of time in our school day is for free play and exploration. It is through observing play and interacting alongside the children, that we can really see their interests shine, allowing us to tailor our teaching and learning to be as engaging as possible for them, when linked to their particular interests and fascinations. This term, we will be encouraging children to explore all areas of our provision, including construction, art, maths, writing, water and sand. Often, little ones wish to play in the same areas and their play can become repetitive.

Enhancements and additional challenges will hopefully encourage them to take their play to new places!

## Physical Education

During the first half term, we will be concentrating on gymnastics and ball skills.



In gymnastics we will be developing basic gymnastic shapes through movement, balancing, jumping rocking and rolling. We will be learning how to use our apparatus safely and copy and create sequences too.

The children will be developing their fundamental ball skills such as rolling and receiving ball, throwing to a target, bouncing and catching, dribbling with feet and kicking a ball.



## Pencil grip, control and fine motor skills

Each morning, our little ones will be developing their fine motor skills, as they develop their emergent writing. Play activities linked to this skill will help their pencil control, strength and dexterity when learning to write. Activities such as threading beads, following tracks with pencils, writing in the sand, scrunchie paper games and manipulating our play dough will all help. Any fiddly finger work done at home will also support your little one to develop this skill.

## WOW Moments at home

Please do use SeeSaw to share any WOW moments from home. This could be anything that simply impresses you...your child might put on their coat without any help, write some words independently, ride their bike without their stabilisers or create a magnificent picture. They may simply say something that makes you think “Wow...I’m shocked that they have remembered this, or that they know that!”

## Music

We are going to be learning a new song, ‘In to the groove’, which will demonstrate lots of different style of music to us.

We will also continue to sing lots of familiar rhymes and actions sounds, whereby we can perform, share and celebrate in class too.

## French

We will continue to learn and embed knowing some colours in French.

We will enjoy learning some familiar nursery rhymes in French, using animated videos, actions and a multi-sensory approach to help us.

Twinkl, Twinkl Little Star and Old McDonald are just a few!

We will also be learning how to name the seasons in French, using this language experience to compliment and enhance our knowledge of the world around us.

## Additional information

Throughout the term, we will be learning all about certain calendar events, such as Valentine’s Day and Mother’s Day. We will chat openly about who we love and why and what makes people special to us. We will be learning new skills to create pieces of art linked to these events too.

National Number Day will encourage lots of mathematical play and exploration and our approaching class assembly about loving our planet will help us to think about how our actions can help the wider world. Lunar New Year will help us to think about different cultural celebrations and taste some Chinese foods.