

Maths

This half term in Maths we will continue to use our classroom environment to consolidate our prior learning, as well as introducing the following topics:

- **Sorting** and **naming** 2d shapes
- **Subitising** up to 5
- **Ordering** numbers between 1 and 5
- **Composition** of the number 5
- **Number bonds** to 5
- **Comparing** quantities



Home-School Communication

We will continue to use **Seesaw** and **Google Classroom** to keep you up-to-date with everything that is happening in Reception.



Please also be sure to read our weekly school newsletter, which can be found online, as there is often important information regarding school events and details of any changes that occur during the term.



PE

P.E will continue to take place every **Tuesday** and it is expected that children come to school wearing the correct PE kit:



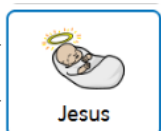
- Bottle green t-shirt/jumper
- Black jogging bottoms
- Black trainers

RE

In RE lessons this half term, we will be focusing on the big question:

'Why do Christians believe Jesus is special?'

We will be thinking about people and things that are special to us - if you have any pictures of your child with people or objects that are special to them and would like these to be added to our class displays, please send them in as soon as possible.



Jesus



special



Christian



St John and St James' C of E Primary School

Reception Class Newsletter – Spring 1

Dear Parents / Carers,
Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the Spring term; we hope you had a well-rested break!

Please see the information in the newsletter to find out about what will be happening in Reception this half term.

Adults working in Reception:

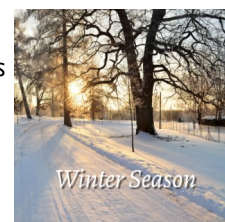
Miss Korbay

Mrs Ryan

Miss Little

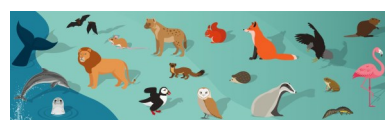
The topics this half term in Reception are: **'Winter' and 'Animals'**

We will continue to build on our learning of the seasons and categorise the changes we notice as we experience the transition from Autumn to Winter. We will explore our school grounds and use our senses to get to describe the environments around us.



We will begin by comparing winter in England to other countries around the world, focusing on the similarities and differences between them. Using weather reports, we will also compare the temperatures and weather patterns.

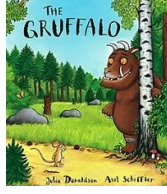
Through our key texts, we will be introduced to animals that live across the globe and we will begin to compare their environments. This will then introduce us to the idea of **hibernation** and **migration**, which we will explore through the journeys of characters within the texts that we read.



Literacy

In Literacy, we will focus on developing our sentence structure and using our phonics knowledge to try and write the sounds we can hear in words. We will also be continuing to focus on the use of finger spaces between each word in a sentence.

Our focus class texts for this half term are:



Blue Penguin and The Gruffalo.

By the end of the term the children will be able to recall these stories using words and actions.

As their phonic knowledge and confidence continues to grow, they will begin to write with greater independence, using these stories for inspiration.

We will continue to practise independent writing of CVC words and access a wide variety of mark making activities including drawing and painting.

You can help at home by continuing to read everyday with your child and giving them plenty of opportunities to write at home.

Home Reading

It is expected that children engage with their home reading books every night **please ensure that you write a comment in your child's reading diary** to support home school communication regarding your child's progress.

Children will continue to receive a reading book of their choice for pleasure and a targeted reading book, which is reflective of their current reading level.

Reading diaries must be returned every **Tuesday** and **Friday**, alongside their reading books, so that we can acknowledge and reward children's home reading.

It is important that both reading books are returned to ensure that children continue to have access to wide variety of texts. If you happen to have found any remaining books at home from last half term, please return these as soon as possible - thank you!



Reading

We will now be introducing focused reading groups to our provision in Reception. These groups will allow children to consolidate their phonics knowledge and develop the skills to blend and decode words. Guided comprehension will also be built into the groups through targeted questioning about the texts that we are reading.



Phonics

We will continue to consolidate our sounds and red words from last half term, focusing on our blending skills to help us read whole words.

m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, r, b, f, e, l, h, sh, z, w

I the my she be he me we to into of you

This half term, we will introduce the following sounds and words:

ch, j, v, y, th, q, ng, x
are, no, go, put

Please continue to support your child's phonics journey by encouraging them to break down words into individual sounds and then blend them together to read the word.



Homework

As some of you may already be aware, we have made some changes to our homework system at St John & St James.

Homework will now be uploaded to Google Classroom on a weekly basis.

The homework overview will give details of suggested activities and things that you can do to support your child's development across the curriculum.

Should you want to share anything that you get up to at home (and please do, we look forward to seeing them) then you can upload any pictures/videos to Google Classroom and we can then share these achievements with the whole class.