

13<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term at St. Joseph`s. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas with your families and wish you a Happy New Year.

This term`s main topic is '**Once Upon a Rhyme**'. Throughout the term we plan to cover a number of activities related to the following areas of learning:

Area of Learning	Reception
<b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b>	<u>Self-confidence &amp; Self-awareness</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confident to speak to others about own needs, wants and interests and opinion.</li></ul> <u>Managing feelings and behaviour</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aware of the boundaries set, and of behavioural expectations in the setting.</li></ul> <u>Making Relationships</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Takes steps to resolve conflicts with other children and finding a compromise.</li><li>• Initiate conversations, attends to and takes account of what others say.</li></ul>
<b>Communication and Language</b>	<u>Listening and attention</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintains attention, concentrates and sits quietly during appropriate activity.</li></ul> <u>Understanding</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respond to instructions involving a two part sequence</li><li>• Listens and responds to ideas expressed by others in conversation or discussion.</li></ul> <u>Speaking</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extends vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words.</li><li>• Uses language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations.</li><li>• Links statements and sticks to a main theme or intention.</li></ul>
<b>Literacy</b>	<u>Reading</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Begin to read words and simple sentences.</li><li>• Uses vocabulary and forms speech that are increasingly influenced by their experiences of books.</li></ul> <u>Writing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue a rhyming string.</li><li>• Segment sounds in simple words and blend them together.</li><li>• Use clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, representing some sounds correctly and in sequence.</li><li>• Writes own name and other things such as labels and captions.</li></ul>
<b>Physical Development</b>	<u>Moving and Handling</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shows increasing control over and object in pushing, patting, throwing, catching and kicking.</li><li>• Begin to form recognisable letters.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognisable letters.</li> </ul> <u>Health and self-Care</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eats a healthy range of foodstuffs and understand the need for variety in food.</li> <li>• Shows an understanding of the need for safety when tackling new challenges, and consider and manage new risks.</li> </ul>
Mathematics	<u>Numbers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finds the total number of items in two groups by counting all them.</li> <li>• Records using marks that they can interpret and explain.</li> <li>• Begin to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting.</li> </ul> <u>Shape, space and measure</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beginning to use everyday language related to money.</li> <li>• Can describe position</li> </ul>
Understanding of the World	<u>People and communities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoys joining in with family customs and routines.</li> </ul> <u>Technology</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completes a simple program on a computer.</li> </ul>
Expressive Arts and Design	<u>Exploring and using media and materials</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct with a purpose in mind, using a variety of resources.</li> <li>• Select appropriate resources and adapt work.</li> </ul> <u>Being imaginative</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose particular colours to use for a purpose.</li> <li>• Plays cooperatively as part as a group to develop and act out a narrative.</li> </ul>

In Phonics, we will continue to practise the skills of blending and segmenting. We will revisit Phase 2 and move onto Phase 3 of Letters and Sounds. High frequency words will be sent home to develop your child`s sight vocabulary. Please support your child as they learn to read. Encourage them to sound out a word and use the pictures for contextual clues and prompts. Home learning books will be sent home every Wednesday. Work set will include a variety of practical and written activities to consolidate your child`s learning at school. Please return the following Monday.

We kindly ask all Reception parents to make a voluntary contribution of £10.00 to go towards providing the children with a healthy snack and other necessities that we use on a daily basis. It can be paid via the preferred method of payment through the School online payment system 'School Gateway' or a cheque (made payable to St. Joseph`s Catholic Primary School). We would be grateful if you could put all monies in an envelope with the amount and your child`s name clearly marked.

As the weather is so unpredictable at the moment please encourage your child to wear a suitable warm coat and appropriate footwear whilst we wait for the warmer weather to arrive. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named as we have a number of unnamed items in our lost property.

We are looking forward to another exciting term developing your child`s skills further. Please do speak to us about any concerns or worries you may have and we will always be happy to discuss them with you at an appropriate time.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hunt & Mrs Foster