



Information for Parents

“Let us allow God’s constant help to make us new people.”

Pope Francis

Dear Parents and carers,

A very happy new year to you all! We hope you managed to have a relaxed and restful Christmas break with your families and friends. We wish you and your family a blessed 2024.

As the new year brings resolutions, personal goals and renewed focus, this is a perfect time to remind your child of their targets and areas to improve with their learning. Please support them in achieving these goals by encouraging them to develop their learning behaviours. The **8 learning behaviours** we focus on at school are:

Not giving up Being curious Having a go Co-operating Enjoying learning
Improving Using your imagination Concentrating

Good News for Families

Along with encouraging and supporting your child in their learning journey, January is also a very good time for your child to reflect and focus on their *spiritual journey*.

As mentioned in the **Wednesday Word** for this week (in reference to the Gospel for Sunday 14th January 2024-**John 1: 35-42**):

“January is a traditionally the month of beginnings-a time for making a NEW START. In this Sunday’s Gospel, we hear about the two disciples of John the Baptist making a new start. They may not have known what John meant when he said ‘Look, there is the Lamb of God,’ but they knew what he wanted them to do: they had to start afresh and get close to Jesus. Once John’s disciples got to know Jesus, they couldn’t wait to tell their friends and share their joy with them.

We too are filled with this same joy when we get close to Jesus and share the good news. Regardless of our past, God is always ready to help us to begin again. God invites each one of us to ‘Come and See’-to make a NEW START with Him, each and every day.”

Dear Lord Jesus,

Please help me to be always ready to make a new start with you and with others as we start this New Year.

Amen

Please find attached a breakdown of what the children will be learning each week.

Teaching and Learning in the Nursery Classes

Spring 1 – Super heroes

Early Years Foundation Stage Prime Areas for learning

Language and Communication

I will be listening to stories and non-fiction books about keeping healthy and begin to relate these to my own experiences. I will begin to talk about my experiences one to one and in small groups. I will enjoy joining in when telling familiar stories. With support I will begin to retell these stories through role play and puppets. I will be learning new vocabulary such as naming body parts and fruits and vegetables.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

I will continue to learn about myself as a unique individual and learn about my body parts and my senses. I will continue to develop my ability to share, take turns and begin to understand the needs of others. I will continue to develop my confidence and independence and learn how I can care for myself through healthy eating, dressing and oral hygiene.



Physical Development

I will be developing my independence, I will learn how to hang up my own coat and bag, take myself to the toilet and dress/undress myself. I will begin to develop my control over implements such as scissors, paintbrushes, pencils and blocks. I will explore the outdoor area and learn to use the climbing equipment safely and effectively, developing my coordination and balance. I will develop my physical strength through riding tricycles and pushing and pulling objects.



Religious Education

I will learn about Celebrations and that in church on Sunday we are celebrating together with the priest. I will learn about the gifts in communion and how to receive a blessing. I will learn about the Bible and the stories we are told in church on Sunday. I will learn about giving thanks and appreciate all that is done for me and to help me.



Early Years Foundation Stage Specific Learning Areas

Mathematics

I will continue to learn and join in with a variety of number rhymes. I will begin to develop my concept of number and look for numbers in the environment. I will begin to recognise numerals and begin to count, sometimes matching objects to numerals (0 – 5). I will begin to compare groups of objects, looking for similarities and differences, for example comparing the number of legs, arms, eyes, ears an animal has. I will look at shapes and patterns in the environment. I will begin to build arrangements with 2 and 3 dimensional shapes.



Literacy

I will begin to recognise rhyming words through rhyming games and books. I will begin to learn how to handle books carefully and talk about what I can see. I will begin to communicate by making marks using a variety of media. I will be able to recognise familiar words and signs, such as my own name, familiar signs and words in the Nursery and advertising logos. I will be able to listen to stories with increasing attention and recall events and characters from the story.



Understanding the World

I will be looking at what makes us unique and different from the people in other communities. I will seek to make sense of what I hear, see, touch, smell and feel. I will represent my ideas by using a range of construction materials and recycled modelling. I will be learning about computers; the names of the various components, safety rules and how to control a mouse. I will learn about my body and how to keep healthy.



Expressive Arts and Design

I will begin to access and learn how to replace a range of equipment such as dressing up clothes in the home corner. I will learn to use props to represent my experiences for example, our healthy eating shop in the role-play corner. I will learn about different textures and sounds and capture my experiences using a range of media.



Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term in Nursery we will begin with reading stories about super heroes. We will think about what makes a super hero and how we too can be a super hero. We will learn about being healthy when reading 'Supertato' and this will include learning about my body, my senses, healthy eating and exercise. We will read a well-known story 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. We will finish the half term by learning about Chinese New Year. To support your child's learning please encourage your child to name body parts, fruits and vegetables. You might also visit the shops and involve your child in shopping for fruit and vegetables or cooking soups or making salads. We will focus on one letter sound a week, ensuring we focus on the sound of the letter not what it looks like. Please encourage your child to make the sound.

Week Beginning	Literacy	Maths	Phonics (little Wandle) Focus on hearing the sound (not looking at the letter)	Other
Week 1 8/1/24	'Ninja Nan' Learning about a super hero	Knows that a group of objects changes in quantity when something is added or taken away.	m mouse	Learn about the 3 Kings visiting on the 6 th
Week 2 15/1/24	Super Hero Hotel Discussing what super hero we would like to be	Begin to make comparisons between quantities. Developing language 'more' and 'less'	d duck g goat	What do we like to do together with our friends and family?
Week 3 22/1/24	Supertato Naming and drawing fruits and vegetables Naming our body parts and how to keep healthy	Begin to use the language of size e.g. long, short, longest, shortest Measuring worms' game	o octopus	Discuss the parish family gathering. Singing the skeleton song to learn the body part names
Week 4 29/1/24	'We're going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen Making our own books	Begin to use the language of size Related to measuring cylinders e.g. big, small, medium	c cat k kite	Learn about our Parish families gathering together at Mass
Week 5 5/2/24	Chinese New Year Marking making Chinese symbols	Separates a group of 3 or 4 objects in different ways, beginning to recognise that the total is still the same	e elephant	Chinese New Year 10.2.24 Half term 12 th -16 th School begins 19 th February

PE	Nursery will be working on the basic fundamentals of sport, such as spatial awareness, balance and co-ordination and basic ball skills using their feet. We will be using a variety of fun football related games to increase their heart rate and help them enjoy being physically active. In Spring 2 they will be doing gymnastics and dance, covering skills to develop strength, flexibility, balance, agility and co-ordination as well as creativity.
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PE is an essential part of the curriculum. We are lucky enough to have specialist teachers and coaches.

PE day for nursery is Wednesday at 9:30am.

Please remember to remove your child's earrings on a Tuesday.

BAGS: Please ensure your child has a bag containing a full set of clothes (pants, socks, T shirt, sweatshirt, trousers) in a plastic bag on their peg so that they can change and be comfortable should they have an 'accident' at school. Backpacks are no longer allowed due to health and safety reasons over storage and will be returned if brought to school.

LIBRARY BOOKS: Share your child's library book with him or her each week; demonstrate how to turn pages carefully, encourage him or her to look at the pages from left to right and to talk about the pictures. Please help us by returning library books each Monday to be changed.

WINTER CLOTHES: All children must come to school with a coat. Most children enjoy spending time outside so please dress appropriately; hats, gloves, scarf. **All items must be named clearly in particular your child's coat.**

WATER BOTTLES/fruit – Please make sure your child brings a water bottle to school each day, clearly labelled with their name. Fruit can be brought in for morning snack, please cut grapes in half.

Please can we have a donation of tissue boxes and baby wipes 😊

Many thanks for your ongoing support. From the Nursery staff.

