



## Curriculum Newsletter for St Francis Class – Reception Children Half Term 3 2020-2021

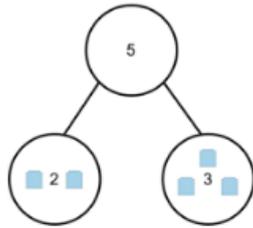
Happy New Year to you all. We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and want to say a massive thank you for your very generous gifts, cards and messages at the end of last term. The children had a very successful first term in school, we are very proud of all their achievements and are excited to see them grow and flourish as we move into the Spring term. Many thanks to those parents who are engaging with 'Tapestry' our online learning journal. It is lovely to see what the children are doing at home and nice to read your comments on the observations we have done in school. Please continue to engage with school in the same way however during the current lockdown all learning will be recorded on Google Classroom.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and patience. We appreciate that the current climate makes your child's first year in school not as any of us had planned. We are missing being able to invite you into our setting and share our environment with you and right now we are very much missing the children, but all the children have settled into school life and we feel that even in these challenging circumstances we have developed positive home-school relationships with you all – so thank you!

### Maths

We will continue to use a range of practical concrete and pictorial resources to support the children in developing their understanding.

**Number bonds within 5** – We will be sorting objects into two groups then we will be using a part whole model to physically split a number of objects into two groups.



### Numbers to 10 -

We will be continuing our work on counting and working closely with numbers up to 10. We will be able to apply the counting principles when counting to 10 and will represent these number different ways. We will be counting out a number of objects from a larger group and arranging items into small groups. We will be learning to subitise and see how the numbers are made up of smaller numbers. E.g. I know it is 8 because I can see 4 and 4. We will be ordering and comparing representations, noticing the one more/less patterns and counting on and back to 10. We will introduce the basics of addition and subtraction, including the vocabulary related to these concepts, and look at how to write these calculations as number sentences.

### English

We will be looking at texts linked to our topic 'Moon Zoom'. We will be reading the stories 'Beegu' 'Smeds and Smoos' and 'The Way Back Home'. We will be predicting what might happen, talking about the characters in the story, retelling the story and writing captions and sentences linked to our work on the stories.



### Phonics

We will continue to work through 'Phase 3' of Letters and Sounds. We will be learning 2 new sounds a week. In class we will be learning how to write these sounds and read and spell them in words. We will also spend some time this half term using our phonics to write captions and sentences for a range of purposes. Alongside this we will continue to learn out tricky words (the words that we can't sound out!) To help us with this in class the children have enjoyed learning 'The Tricky Word Songs'. If you youtube 'Tricky word song phase 2 and 3' these can be found at home.

<p><b>RE - Our topic for this term is: Getting to know Jesus</b></p> <p>In our RE work we will be talking about how we can show our love for Jesus and thinking about what makes us and Him feel happy and sad. We will then be learning about how Jesus cured people who were ill by reading stories from the Bible. We will look closely at the story of the Wedding at Cana and how this shows us that Jesus is the Son of God.</p>	<p><b>Chinese New Year –</b></p> <p>As part of our work on learning about other faiths. In St Francis class we focus on celebrations from around the world. On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February the world celebrated the Chinese New Year and the Year of the Ox. In class during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> February we will be making and tasting Chinese food, learning about the celebration, making decorations and sending cards.</p>	<p><b>PE – In PE this term we will be learning about: Sending and receiving</b></p> <p>We will also be doing weekly yoga sessions through ‘Cosmic Yoga for Kids’</p>
<p>The children will be taught in a creative way through <b>themes and topics</b>, through a given theme we then cover key skills from all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Through our environment inside and outside we will encourage the children to be independent, curious and learn through exploration and play.</p> <p><b>Curriculum- This half term our topic is ‘Moon Zoom’</b></p> <p><b>Communication and Language</b></p> <p>As a class we will be listening to a range of stories, learning to ask questions about stories or pictures. Expressing our ideas and views on questions asked by the teachers. We will be showing our understanding by answering questions about our topic following what we have watched or read.</p> <p><b>Physical Development</b></p> <p>We will be moving in a range of ways, safely negotiating the space. We will be encouraging the children to use pencils effectively for writing and continuing to work on our letter formation.</p> <p><b>Health and Self Care</b></p> <p>We will continue to spend time talking to the children about the importance of hand hygiene.</p> <p><b>The World–</b> We will be learning about our Solar System, investigating and observing the different properties of different materials.</p> <p><b>Technology –</b> We will be using floor robots and programming different toys to move in the way we intend.</p> <p><b>People and Communities –</b> we will be learning about the lives of significant people important in space travel (Yuri Gagarin (the first person to travel into space), Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin)</p> <p><b>Expressive Arts and Design:</b> We will be using different apps on the ipad to create alien artwork. Later on in the half term we will be designing and making out own space ships.</p>	 	
<p><b>To help your child at home you could -</b></p> <p><u>Reading</u></p> <p>Where possible we would recommend you hear your child read daily. When you have listened to your child one of the online books from Active Learn please write a comment or sign to show that the book has been read – we can catch up with this when school is fully open to all children.</p>	<p><b>General information</b></p> <p>Thank you to all of you for the pictures, work and videos already uploaded on to Google Classroom. We really love looking through them. As teachers recording lessons, planning sessions for home is far from ideal but we appreciate all you are doing at home.</p> <p>We are loving seeing all the children during the live sessions at 1pm – it really is the highlight of our day!</p>	

Sound book

Please can you go through the sound book with your child daily. Encourage your child to make the sound, think of words that start with that sound and practise writing the letter. If they are confident at recognising the letter sound, try saying the sound to your child and encourage them to write the letter sound.

**Many thanks for your continued support. If you have any questions concerns please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office**

**Best Wishes**

**Mrs C Gilhooly and Mrs S Fisher**