

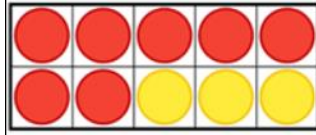


**Curriculum Newsletter for St Francis Class – Reception Children**  
**Half Term 4 2021-22**

We are looking forward to welcoming your children back and hope that you have all had a restful half term break. This newsletter will give you an insight to the exciting things we will be covering in class over the next half term. We will continue to use our indoor and outdoor environments, and plan for purposeful play-based learning experiences.

**Maths**

We will be comparing numbers to 10 and starting to think about our 'Bonds to ten'. These are the pairs of numbers that we can add together to total 10. To support us with this work we will be using a tens frame and a part whole model. These are ways of helping the children practically see the addition and develop a deeper understanding of what is happening to the number.



We will then work with part-whole models to 'break apart' 10 and identify the different bonds created. The children will be introduced to the 'finding a missing part' structure of subtraction from 10.

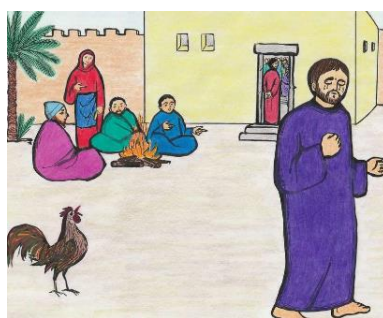


We will end this half term by looking at patterns. We will be recognising, extending, creating and

explaining simple repeating patterns. We will consider patterns not just in pictures but in our everyday environment and using sounds, words and actions.

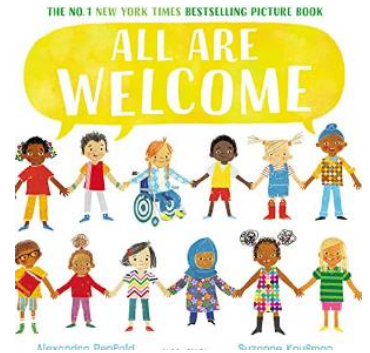
**RE - Our topic for this term is: Sorrow and Joy**

In our RE work we will be talking about how we should always try to be kind to each other but thinking about how sometimes this is hard to remember. We will be talking about the words sorry and forgiveness. We will learn how Jesus forgave people when they hurt him and betrayed him and thinking about how we too can forgive those who hurt us.



**English**

We will begin this half term with a week focusing on 'The Wonderful World of Julia Donaldson'. This will be part of our work for World Book Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. We will be retelling, describing and comparing some of our favourite Julia Donaldson books.



We will then move on to looking at books which will support our work on our new topic 'Big Wide World'. We will be using our sounds to write captions to retell parts of the stories and talking about our favourite parts of the books we read.

**Phonics**

We will spend this half term reviewing the phase 3 sounds we have learnt but are struggling to remember. We will be using these letter sounds to write words and captions and reading words in longer sentences. Alongside this we will continue to learn our tricky words (the words that we can't sound out!).

We are very fortunate this half term to have PE with Mr Gibson twice a week. **PE will be on a Tuesday and a Friday**

**PE – In PE this term we will be learning about: Striking**

We will be replicating simple racket skills such as balancing an object on a racket. We will also be discovering how to strike an object with their hands. We will also continue to work on our agility, balance and coordination.

The children will be taught in a creative way through **themes and topics**, through a given theme we then cover key skills from all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Through the activities we plan we aim that the children are engaged in their learning through play through exploration and investigation.



**Curriculum-** This half term our topic is '**Big Wide World**'. This project teaches children about the global community to which they belong and explores how living things, communities and climates differ around the world.

To support our work on different habitats and our learning around the story of the Gruafflo we are very fortunate to be going on a school visit to Nell Bank Education Centre on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

**The Natural World-** The children will be learning about different habitats around the world. We will be matching different animals to different habitats. We will be looking at maps and globes and talking about different climates in different parts of the world. We will end the topic by looking at how we can look after our world, and the role we all can play with recycling

**People, Culture and Communities** – We will be looking at how the lives of children look different in different parts of the world, thinking different hobbies/sports that children do all over the world and tasting different foods from all over the world.

#### **Communication and Language**

As a class we will be listening to a range of poems and stories. We will be answering questions about what we have read or looked at to demonstrate our understanding.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** We will be creating our own animal masks and using patterns to recreate aboriginal art. We will be using different plastics to create our own upcycled pieces of art work.

#### **To help your child at home you could -**

##### Reading

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 or their school paper book please write a comment or sign to show that the book has been read. I will continue to provide weekly 'memos' on Tapestry to update you on that weeks learning and suggest some home learning activities.



#### **General information**

Please be aware that milk is only free for the children until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. After this is your child would still like milk in the school day you will need to subscribe through the cool milk website.

We are very excited to be able to welcome you into the classroom for our 'Stay and Read' event on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2.30. You will get to hear your child read and see our busy learning environment.

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

**Best Wishes**

**Mrs C Gilhooly**