



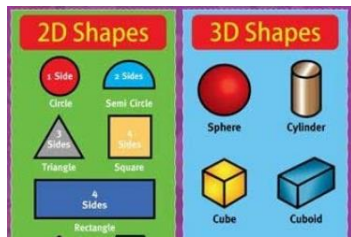
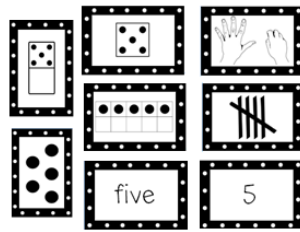
**Curriculum Newsletter for Bluebell Class – Reception Children**  
**Half Term 2 2023-24**

We are so proud of our Reception children. They have settled into school life fabulously and are all very much part of our 'Sacred Heart Family'. They have really impressed us with how they have adapted to their new routines and how they are coping with the long school days. We can already see how much progress the children are making but more importantly how they are all enjoying their time in school. 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. If you are having problems with your login details or accessing Tapestry, please email us via the school office and we will help with logging in.



**Maths**

Every day we will work with the children in small groups working on their mathematical understanding. To support this, we will be using a range of practical resources.

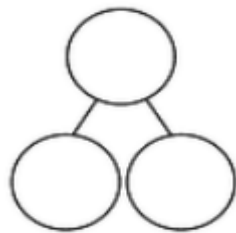


**Shape** – we will be describing and comparing both 2D and 3D shapes. We will be investigating the properties of different shapes and begin to

learn the names of different shapes.

**Change within 5** –we will be finding one more and one less than. Building foundations for addition and subtraction.

**Number bonds within 5** – we will be putting objects into two groups to work out all the different ways to make 5. We will be using a part whole model to represent our ideas.



**English**

We will be looking at texts linked to our topic 'Winter Wonderland'. We will be reading stories that are set in Winter or Polar Regions. We will end our work this half term looking at writing letters to someone very important who will be visiting on December 24<sup>th</sup> and reading Stickman - which is already one of Mrs Gilhooly's favourites!



**Phonics**

We will be finishing off our work on 'Phase 2' looking at the letter sounds - e, u, r, b, h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss. We will be learning how to recognise these sounds to read and form them to spell.

During our phonics sessions we will be focusing on reading and spelling words using the sounds we have learnt. We will also be continuing to learn the 'Tricky Words' from phase 2 . These are words that cannot be sounded out but just have to be learnt. Each week we will be learning new sounds or focusing on certain tricky words.

**RE - Our topic for this term is: God's Family**

We will be learning about Mary and Joseph as Jesus' family. We will learn about how Mary got asked to do the most important job - in being Jesus' mummy. We will look at how Jesus was born in a stable and who came to visit the new born king.



**Diwali –**

In Bluebell class we focus on celebrations from around the world throughout the year. The first celebration we will be learning about this year is the Hindu festival of Diwali.



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

Throughout the term the children will also be working on their balance, agility and co-ordination. We will also be focussing on 'Me and Myself' looking at our bodies and what we can do with our bodies.

PE this half term will take place on a Tuesday and a Thursday. On those days can the children please come in their PE kits.

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 our environment inside and outside we will encourage the children to be independent, curious and learn through exploration and play.

**Curriculum- This half term our topic is 'Winter Wonderland'.**

**Communication and Language** -As a class we will be making predictions on what might happen in a story, 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 also be working on extending the periods of time we can actively listen or join in with a discussion for.

**Physical Development** - The children will be learning the rules and routines needed to ensure that P.E. is safe and fun. They will spend lots of time outside playing on the balancing and climbing equipment. We will also be working on using a range of implements to write and make marks with both inside and outside. Children will learn about their own personal hygiene and be supported to manage their own personal hygiene independently.

**Personal, social and emotional development** - We will be looking at how to manage our relationships with our friends and regulate our emotions by learning some strategies to help us recognise, process and manage our own feelings.

**World- The Natural World**– We will be identifying and comparing day and night. We will talk about why we have day and night time. We will be learning the months of the year and days of the week through songs. We will explore the seasonal changes that happen during winter and find out about the different weather associated with the winter season and explore changes that happens to water as it freezes. We will find out about what happens to plants and animals during cold weather and explore places in the world that are always cold and snowy, including the animals that live there.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** As a class we will be looking at frozen art and ice art by Andy Goldsworthy. Alongside this we will have opportunities to role play, create and innovate in our role play area, craft and making area.

**Science:** - '**Seasonal Change**' - We will be looking at how the weather and length of day light will change this half term. We will be observing the changes as we move from Autumn to Winter.



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

**Encourage your child to rehearse reading writing their own name.**

Reading

Where possible we would recommend you hear your child read daily. When you have listened to your child read (or discussed what is happening in a story) please write a comment or sign to show that the book has been read. Reading books will be changed twice a week.

Please make sure that your child's book is kept in their book bag and **brought to school every day**. The teaching staff will listen to your child read during the week and will need their reading book and reading record to do so.

Numbers



**General information**

Outdoor clothing

A significant part of the Early Years curriculum is physical development to support this the children will always have the option of going outside so it is important that they have the appropriate attire. **Every child should bring a warm outdoor coat to school daily and a pair of wellies that can be left in school. Children should also have a hat, scarf and some warm gloves.**

School fruit and milk

We are fortunate that every child is able to have a piece of fruit as their snack in school every day. We do not need you to provide your child with an additional snack.

Your child will receive complimentary milk until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. Please be aware that once they turn 5 they will no

Play games with your child that involve numbers, counting and using a dice. Encourage your child to find numbers in their environment.

longer receive daily milk unless you subscribe through CoolMilk. Please email the office if you need further details.

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

**Best Wishes**

**Mrs C Gilhooly and Mrs S Fisher**