

St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School Spring Term Curriculum Newsletter: Reception



A message from your leachers...

Wow, what a fantastic term we had during our last topic of 'Lights, Camera, Action!' The children enjoyed learning about Television and we explored this across our curriculum. They achieved so much and we got to see their beautiful personalities blossom. The trip to West Lodge Farm to see Father Christmas was definitely a highlight. We can't wait to see where this term takes them.

The school topic for this term is 'A Step Back in Time' and we can't wait to share our focus of 'Dinosaurs' with the children. We know we have lots of dinosaur mad children in our class and they are going to absolutely love all the opportunities we have planned for them, including their first school trip!

We look forward to sharing lots of new experiences with your child and watching them fly! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a ring, or to contact us on Tapestry. Please also continue to share what they get up to at home, it helps us to gain a better understanding of the children and we love to hear all about their families and activities.

Religious Education

Galilee to Jerusalem — How do we welcome others and why is $\it I$ it important?

Desert to Garden — Why do we give things to others?



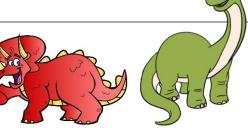
Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Throughout the first time, the children have already started to make some fantastic friendships within St. George's Class and across the school, and this is something we will continue to develop. This term will be working on taking turns and recognising that it is ok to have a different opinion to someone else. We will be learning to share our knowledge with one another, especially about dinosaurs and also learn to resolve problems when working in a group (this can be a little tricky!)

Mathematics

The children will continue build on their knowledge of numbers by saying, recognising and representing numbers to 20. They will learn and explore addition by combining two groups of objects; and subtraction by "taking away". They will also be introduced to the concept of money and begin to recognise coins. This will be extended through our role play restaurant area. Children will learn to use vocabulary such as 'more' and 'less' to compare two numbers confidently. Additionally, to this they will learn a range of stem sentences that will help to secure their learning. They will continue to develop their understanding of 2D





Literacy

The children will continue to build on their phonic knowledge and applying these skills to their independent learning. They will learn to hear, say and write sounds in words ensuring that the letters are correctly formed. We will be continuing with our Kinetic Letters lessons to practice letter formation. They will learn to differentiate between vowels and consonants. The children will use their phonic knowledge to read and write simple regular words and sentences, learning that a sentence starts with a capital letter and ends with a full stop. We will also be learning how to write harder to read and spell words. They will also learn to sequence a story. We will be looking at lots of different dinosaur stories and also non-fiction books.

Expressive Arts and Design

This term the children will be using a range of different medium and learning to work to small and large scale, using different textures. They will be encouraged to use their imagination to make representations of different dinosaurs and make objects for role play. The children will explore colour and how to change it. They will construct with purpose in mind and consider how to improve their ideas. The children will be taught to tap out simple repeated rhythms and continue to sing songs from memory. They will also start composing their own music!

Understanding the World

As part of our dinosaur topic, we will be looking at different types of animals, what they look like, where they live and how they move.

We will experiment with melting ice and exploding volcanoes. We will learn about life cycles and habitats. The children will look at similarities and differences and how things change, comparing life in the past.

We will also continue to explore how the world is changing, especially during our Outdoor Learning sessions on a Thursday afternoon.

Communication and Language

The children will gain a better understanding of asking and answering questions. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully to others and respond appropriately. In their role play, the children will explore language to imagine and recreate roles. This term we will be having a Dinosaur Restaurant role play which will give lots of opportunities for writing, reading and recreating their own past experiences. They will be able to follow a story without pictures and prompts. They are extending vocabulary by grouping and naming and exploring the meaning of new words.

Physical Development

The children will continue PE lessons on a Tuesday morning. The children will learn activities that centre around turning, bouncing and jumping. They should be able to jump, climb, mount and dismount equipment safely. They will use large apparatus in order to gain more control over climbing, balancing, sliding and swinging. They will also be learning a range of ball skills and developing throwing and catching. They will explore how to express feelings and moods through movement. We will continue to strengthen our hands and improve our fine motor control to help develop our writing, trying very hard to form our letters correctly.

What you can do to help your child?

Please continue to share stories with your child, both with you reading to them and listening to them read to you. Encouraging an enjoyment of books at this age is really important. Please ensure that you are recording in their reading records when they have read. We will shortly be sending home sound mats, along with harder to read and spell words. Please practice the sounds and words with your child and encourage them to make new words. We will continue to upload videos to model how we say each sound throughout the term. Playing games with dice can also be a lovely way of supporting counting and simple addition.

Please continue to support the children in completing their homework task, we were utterly blown away with their efforts last term. Have fun and make memories together at the same time.

Dates for your Diary

Week commencing 8th March — Mother's day celebration. Details to follow.

Week commencing Monday 25th March — EYFS Easter Celebration. Details to follow.

