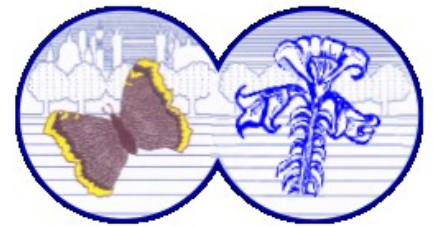
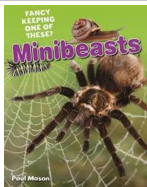
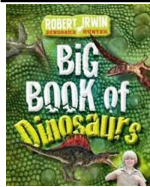


TERM *talk*



EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM NEWS
FOR THE ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Issued Termly Summer 2017 Year Reception April - July 2017

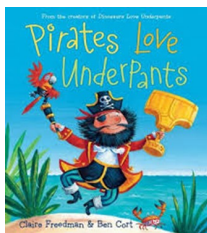


English

In Literacy, for the first half of the Summer Term we will be learning about non-fiction texts, focusing on information about Dinosaurs and minibeasts. We will also read a range of fictional books about dinosaurs and minibeasts. Although we planned to cover dinosaurs last half term, the children were so immersed in fairy tales that we decided to continue with that topic instead.

Also, in Summer 1 we will cover the topic of superheroes, reading a range of exciting superhero stories and role-playing male and female superhero characters.

For the second half of the Summer Term our topics will be pirates/mermaids and transport/ travel.



We will visit Crystal Palace Park, where we will be exploring and looking for evidence of dinosaurs. We will also go to Myatt's Fields Park to hunt for minibeasts. On Friday 7th July we will be travelling by coach to Bocketts Farm in Surrey. The farm is situated in the countryside on the slopes of the North Downs approx. 2 miles south of Leatherhead.



P.E



In the first half of the summer term the children will be focusing on athletics for their outdoor sessions and balancing for their indoor sessions.

In the second half of term the children will be getting ready for their first ever Sports Day at school. Their lessons will entail lots of fun and stimulating activities.

Sports Day is Friday 14th July. Parents are welcome so put the date in your diaries. Further details to follow closer to the time.

Reading

At school, your child reads weekly with an adult. Please look out for and read the 'Next steps' written in your child's diary in order to help you best support your child's progress in reading. Many children are now fluent readers! These children need to be asked relevant questions about the book they are reading i.e. Who is the main character? What was the story about? What was your favourite part and why? How do you think the story could have ended differently? If your child is not a member of the local library, please join during the holidays. We want them to become life long readers!

Phonics

The children will recap the sounds they have already learnt within phases 3,4, and 5 of the Letters and Sounds programme of Phonics this term. www.phonicsplay.com has a variety of fun and effective games which will benefit your child's reading and writing.

Maths



This term we will be learning how to solve problems relating to doubling, sharing, adding and subtracting. We will be adding and subtracting using a range of different methods. The children have been using objects, their fingers and even a number-line to count on and back. Children are also able to record their answers in number sentences i.e. $18-2=16$.

Children will be focusing on learning how to recognise, name and describe some of the features of 2d and 3d shapes. They will be engaged in lots of exciting activities - hunting inside and outside for objects in school that are cuboids, spheres, cubes and cones! Ask your child if they can find anything at home that matches those 3d-shapes. What can they tell you about them?

Children are now beginning to use different mental maths strategies i.e. holding a bigger number in their head and counting on or back to add or take-away. They are also beginning to solve real life word problems e.g. If the Hungry Caterpillar ate 5 apples on Monday and 6 plums on Tuesday how many pieces of fruit has he eaten all together?

$$5 + 6 = \square$$



Religious Education



The Way, the Truth and the Life Religious Education

During the first half of the Summer Term the children will be learning all about 'New Life'. During RE lessons the children will begin to understand that Easter is the celebration of Jesus rising from the dead. They will also learn and act out the story of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene at the empty burial tomb, and they will begin to understand why this story is so important. The children will be going on a spring walk, making their own puppets to act out the stories and discussing how important it is to take care of new life. There will be lots of discussion on how we should care for the plants around us. The children will talk about the good news we share and how they themselves can spread the Good News. In the second half of the term, the topic is 'The Church'. In these lessons the children will learn that we call the Church the family of God and that we can all belong to his family. We will be discussing why Sunday is a special day for us all. The children will have a chance to talk about their families during circle times and we will hopefully visit a church to see where the altar, baptismal font, candles, pews, stained glass and statues are situated. The children will hear about people who look after the church and what they do.

Home Learning Diary

Thank You to all those parents and carers who have been updating their home learning diary. Please continue to update these regularly and hand them back to us on 24th April 2017.

Technology

This term children will be learning how to use a variety of technology for particular purposes. These will include stopwatches, iPads, and programmable toys called Bee-Bots. The children will be taking photos of their friends and school surroundings using iPads. They will also learn how to upload their images to the computer and then print out.

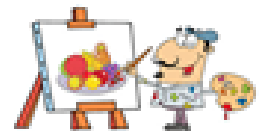


Understanding of the World

Ahoy there ship mates! Through the topic of pirates, mermaids & mermen, we will be learning about reading maps and even making our own. No need to worry about where you might be going on holiday this year as our outside roleplay area will be turning into a travel agents and with our passports at the ready we will be boarding our imaginary plane to learn about other countries around the world. Parents/carers if you are from or know lots about another country, we would love you to come and talk to the children about your homeland. Can you teach us a song or a rhyme in a different language? Can you teach us to count to 10? What's your National dish? Let's have a go at cooking together. Please get in touch with the class teacher if this is something you are interested in and would like to share. This would be so fascinating for the children and they would learn so much. We look to many of you coming forward and supporting us with this.



ART This term, the children are very excited to be working with our local artists, Jerry Flynn and Jackie Brown which will happen every Wednesday afternoon. The children will be exploring a variety of art techniques including printing, collage, and drawing with oil pastels and water colour pencils. They will also be looking at the art of a range of artists as inspiration for their very own art work to be produced in that style. These mini masterpieces will be hung in our whole school ART GALLERY on Wednesday 28th June 2017 where you will be able to visit and buy your child's work framed for £7.50. We are very much looking forward to celebrating your children's art work with you at the Gallery opening. Details to follow...



Dates to remember:

Red Class Liturgy:
Friday 5th May at 09.15.

Rainbow Class Liturgy:
Friday 30th June at 09.15.

Trip to Bocketts Farm:
Friday 7th July.

Trip to Crystal Palace Park:
Date to be confirmed.

Trip to Myatt's Field Park for a mini-beast hunt: Date to follow.

EVERY DAY your child should have a water bottle with a sports cap in school with them. This is especially important now the weather is getting warmer. It should be clearly labelled with their name and class.

PSED

This term we will be focusing on self-confidence and self-awareness. Children will be encouraged to try a range of new activities and to participate in some new experiences. They will be encouraged to have an opinion and to speak openly about their likes and dislikes. Each class will also be taking on the responsibility of caring for and observing caterpillars' as they change into butterflies.



Hymn Practice takes place every Thursday morning for the Infants.