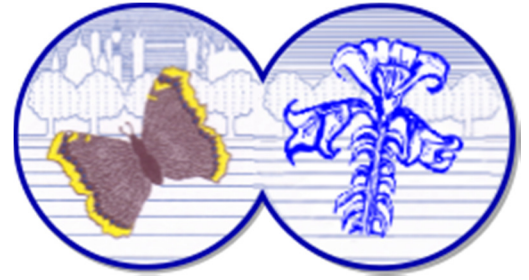


# The St. Joseph's Standard

Early Years Edition



## CURRICULUM NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Issued Termly Spring 2016 Reception January –April

### Literacy Adventures in Outer Space and Beyond!

In Literacy lessons this half-term we are learning all about Space and Dinosaurs. We will be reading 'Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram and 'Aliens Love Underpants' by Claire Freedman and Ben Cort. We will also be reading information books and learning facts about both topics. In the second half of the term Reception children will be reading a variety of traditional fairy-tales including The Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk, and The Ugly Duckling. In all these classic stories we will be writing information books, post-cards, letters and stories using sentences with high-frequency words, tricky words and phonetically spelt words. We will also be focusing on the use of finger-spaces and full-stops.

In **Art** children will enjoy mixing colours with paints and learning how to make darker and lighter colours. We will be creating models with papier mache, marbling, weaving and paper craft.

In **Personal, Social, Health and Emotional Development** the Reception children will recognise and learn how to better manage a range of different feelings including jealousy, shyness, anger etc.

In our **Understanding of the World** area of learning we will be investigating floating and sinking with a raisin and lemonade experiment and exploring light and dark, the job of an astronaut, facts and features of dinosaurs and learning how to conduct a volcano experiment. The children will also be embarking on a 'Technology in the Environment' walk in our local environment.

### Gathering Together for Religious Education

For the first part of the term the children will be learning all about 'Getting to know Jesus'. The children will learn that Jesus has a great love for each one of us. Through exciting and interactive activities the children will think of ways in which we can show our love for Jesus. They will learn that Jesus cured people who were ill and as a year group we will be thinking of ways in which we can show our love for people who are ill. This will involve having a doctor's role play corner! After half term the topic will be 'Sorrow and Joy'. We will have lots of circle time discussing how we should always be kind to each other.



### News Flash!



This term the children will be having fun at the Horniman Museum in Forest Hill when they go to see the Monster Families exhibition on 23rd February. Can you accompany them?

### Maths Mania!

This term children will be learning how to add and subtract using single digit and two digit numbers. They will record their answers in number sentences complete with adding up and equals signs. e.g. If I have 4 pencils and I find 2 more. How many will I have altogether?  $4 + 2 = 6$  Please continue to practise number formation with your child at home as this will help them write their new number sentences. Children will also learn all about weight and capacity through a variety of creative and exploratory activities. They will use everyday language when comparing heaviest and lightest. And also full, empty, half-full and half-empty. Please reinforce this language when cooking/playing at home so that your child will begin to understand these concepts.