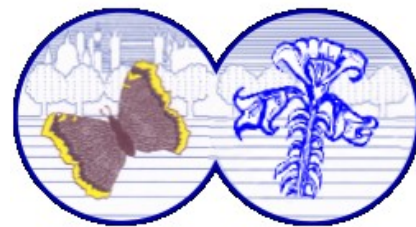
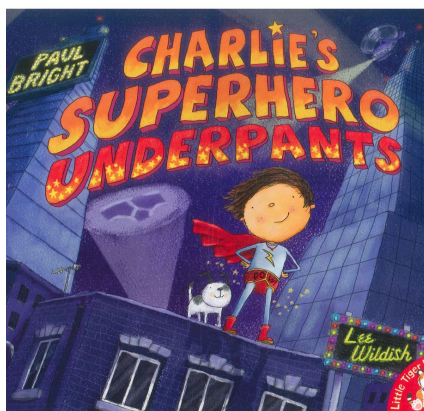


# TERM talk



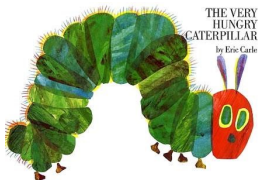
CURRICULUM NEWS  
FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ST JOSEPH'S  
Issued Termly Summer 2016 Year Reception April - July 2016

## English



In Literacy, Reception children have been reading a range of Super-Hero stories. They have been learning how to write using their own ideas and vivid imaginations to create different Super-heroes with a range of different powers.

When reading and writing about *The Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, we have been focusing on re-telling the story orally and then writing using full sentences complete with finger-space (so the children and others can read their brilliant writing) and also full-stops to mark the end of a sentence.



In order to support the children with their writing at school there will be a Writing Workshop on 12th May at 9.00am, which all parents MUST attend. This is vital not only for their progress in Reception but also to ensure a smooth transition into Year 1.



## P.E

In the first half of the summer term the children will be focusing on throwing and catching. They will be using a variety of different equipment e.g. different size balls and bean bags to practise their skills. They will also be challenged to try and throw and catch the ball confidently as many times as they can.

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 8th July—details to follow closer to the time.

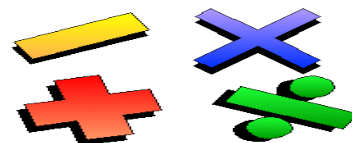
## Reading

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? etc

## Phonics

The children will begin Phase 4 of the Letters and Sounds programme of Phonics this term. Please log on to [www.phonicsplay.com](http://www.phonicsplay.com) to see what is required. There are a variety of fun and effective games which will benefit your child's reading and writing.

## Maths



This term children have been learning to add and subtract using a range of different methods. They have been using objects, their fingers and even a number-line and a 100 square to count on and back on. Children are also able to record their answers in number sentences i.e.  $18-2=16$ .

Children have also been focusing on learning how to recognise, name and describe some of the features of 2d and 3d shapes. They have had great fun 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 shapes. What can they tell you about it?



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?

# Religious Education



## The Way, the Truth and the Life Religious Education

In RE during the first half of this term the children will be learning all about 'New Life'. During the lessons the children will begin to understand that Easter is a 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 discussions 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, candles and statues are situated. The children will hear about people who look after the church and what they do.

## Homework

Please check your child's home interest book every Friday for their weekly activity. This is a great opportunity to understand what your child is expected to learn in Reception and also to give them an extra boost of confidence.

## Technology

This term children will be learning how to use a variety of technology for a particular purpose. These will include stopwatches, mobile phones (toy communication phones) and digital cameras. The children will be taking photos of their friends and school surroundings, which they will also be learning how to upload to the computer and print.

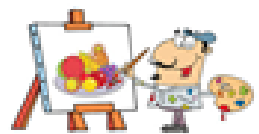


## Understanding of the World

Ahoy there ship mates! Through the topic of pirates and mermaids/men we will be having a go at reading maps and even making our own, to see if we can find the long lost treasure of peg leg Kirrane! 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 about another country, we would love for you to come and share with us your knowledge. Can you teach us a song in a different language? 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.



**ART** This term Reception are very excited to be working with our in house school Artists. Jerry Flynn and Caz Underwood. 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 art produced by artists such as Paul Klee and Roy Lichtenstein as inspiration for their very own art work to be produced in the style of... These mini masterpieces will be hung in our school pop up gallery on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016 where you will be able to 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. We will also be visiting Dulwich Picture Gallery.



## PSED

### Dates to remember:

The Writing workshop is on the 12th May at 9.00am.

Your child's Profile Meeting is on the 17th May at 9.00am.

Please make sure you attend both. We will be taking a parent register.

Trip to Battersea Park Farm 19th May.

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

Trip to Dulwich Picture Gallery - date to follow

Please provide your child with a water bottle every day. It should be clearly labelled with their name especially now as the weather is get-

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 hatching and caring for some real baby chicks.



**Music lessons** happen weekly and **Hymn Practice** takes place every Thursday morning for the whole Infants school.