



## St Margaret's C.E. Primary School Foundation Stage Newsletter Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents,

We hope that you have all had a lovely summer! We are excited to be starting a new year back in school and are hopeful that with the systems we have in place, life can return to a greater degree of normality. The reception children have all settled very well into school! This term our topics will be 'Amazing Me' and 'Celebrations'. Within these topics, we will be following the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Below is a brief outline of what we will be covering within the seven areas of learning.

### **Communication and Language**

Listening to stories and rhymes and responding

Developing speaking and listening skills

Using imaginative language through role play

### **Physical Development**

Basic skills- following instructions, stopping and starting, getting changed independently

Develop fine motor skills

Learn to handle equipment safely

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Beginning to understand feelings

Knowing 'I am special and unique'

Taking turns and sharing

Settling into school

Classroom rules and expectations

### **Literacy**

Learn to recognise and write first name

Begin to learn Phase 2 phonics sounds

Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words

made up of known letter-sound correspondences

Read a few common exception words

### **Mathematics**

Recognising and forming numbers 1-5

Counting and ordering numbers 1-5

Addition and Subtraction within numbers to 5

Length

Pattern

Position

2D shapes

### **Understanding the World**

Describe and talk about ourselves, home and school

Investigate using our senses

Learn about our local environment

Harvest festival

Learn about the Jewish festival Sukkot

The Christian Creation story

Shabbat

The story of Christmas

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

Experiment with different media and explore colours

Create sounds with different musical instruments, listen and respond to music

Develop storylines in their pretend play

## **PSHE/RSE Curriculum**

### **Health and Wellbeing**

The importance of and how to maintain personal hygiene

### **Relationships**

To identify their special people (family, friends, carers), and what makes them special and how special people should care for one another

### **Living in the Wider World**

To recognise that they belong to various groups and communities such as family and school

## **Timetable**

Please find attached a copy of our timetable. Please understand that the Early Years timetable is very flexible as children's interests and learning development is taken into account, as well as special events. This is given as guidance only. This year our PE day is a Thursday. Please remember that your child should come to school already dressed for PE. Our class will continue to access Forest Schools throughout the year and we will let you know in advance so that appropriate clothing can be worn to school on those days.

## **Reading**

We will soon be sending home reading books with your child. These will match the phonics progression of sounds as well as children's knowledge and comprehension ability. Please record any reading you do with your child in their reading record. We recommend at first, you look at the inside front cover of the book where you will find information for parents regarding the sounds and tricky words you might find. There are also some ideas of activities to do with your child before, during and after reading the book. Then, concentrate on word recognition and understanding the meaning of any new words. If your child is struggling with some of the words, you could make a flash card and practise it separately from the book. Finally, talk about the book with your child to check comprehension skills. Reading regularly at home helps them to make good progress and we advise trying to read for 10 minutes per day. Children should have their school reading book in their bag on a daily basis to enable us to listen to them read throughout the week. Children will also have access to library books for you to read together at home. This year reading books will be changed weekly on a Wednesday. This year we continue to use online reading scheme 'Bug Club'. We will soon send out your child's log in details for this.

## **Homework**

Homework will soon be set on our Google Classroom platform- log in details will be sent home soon. It will be set on a Friday and will be returned on a Wednesday. We understand that your child will have other activities outside of school and may have difficulty completing tasks on a set night. If this is the case, please complete the homework when time is available.

## **School Uniform**

Please can you ensure that **all** clothing is named. We have many jumpers, cardigans and coats left behind already without names. If it is clearly named we can return it to the child. We will place any unnamed items on the EYFS outdoor fence at home time.

### Coats

Please ensure that your child **always** has a named coat in school as we will be outdoors as much as possible.

### Book bags

Just a polite reminder that we do not have much space in our classrooms and therefore we ask that children **do not** bring in large rucksacks, as these do not fit in the storage areas and cause a trip hazard. They need a book bag to hold their reading books, library book and a named water bottle which must be taken home, washed and refilled each day.

### Class Dojo

We will soon be sending home log in details for our Class Dojo platform. We will put photos of our special activities throughout the year on here.

### Drop off and pick up

Reception children can be dropped off at the Infant Gate from **8.45** until **8.55**, then the gate will then be locked. If you arrive after 8.55, please take your child to the school office.

Reception children are to be collected from the EYFS outdoor area gate at **3.20**. If your child will be collected by someone other than yourself, you must inform the office. If your child is not attending Tea Club on their usual day, please inform the office prior to home time.

### Communication

If you have any queries or issues these can be emailed to the office for the attention of the class teacher. Please be assured that if we have any concerns, we will get in touch with you. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you very much for your co-operation,

Mrs McNicholas and Mrs Reilly