



St Margaret's C.E. Primary School EYFS Newsletter Autumn Term 2022

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 so proud of how well the children have settled into school already! 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 irregular 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 reading 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 children 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 Friday. This year we continue to use online reading scheme 'Bug Club'. We will soon send out your child's log in details for this. We will be inviting parents in for a Reading and Phonics workshop on Friday 23rd September at 9am to explain this further and answer any questions you might have.

Homework

Homework will be sent home on a Friday and will be returned on a Wednesday. The homework will be a 'Home Stories' task that will ask you a different thing about your child each week and they are your chance to tell us all about your special and unique child. We absolutely love reading them! 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. We will also send out a log in for a maths website (Numbots) that the school subscribes to so that your child can practise their maths skills at home.

School Uniform

It would help us immensely if you could name all of your child's school uniform (even shoes!). This ensures that any discarded jumpers, shoes or anything else can be quickly returned to their rightful owner. We will place any unnamed items on the EYFS outdoor fence at home time. Also, due to our changeable weather, please can you ensure that your child always has a named coat in school every day, 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.

Drop off and pick up

Reception children can be dropped off at the EYFS outdoor area 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 any arrangements for collection change from the list of adults allowed to collect your child, please can you contact the School Office who will then let staff know. If your child is not attending Tea Club on their usual day, please also inform the office prior to home time.

Communication

We do operate an open-door policy and welcome communication with parents/carers. We are available at pick up most days if you have any queries. You can also email the school office with any queries or messages for the attention of the class teacher. Please be assured that if we have any concerns about your child, we will get in touch with you. If you have any queries or messages about you child, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you very much for your co-operation,

Mrs McNicholas and Mrs Reilly