

# St Fidelis Catholic Primary School

with Nursery Unit



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## Reception Sparrows

January 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! As we start the Spring academic term, we thought it would be useful to revisit some daily routines and expectations that are in place in Reception. Although we try to keep school as structured and consistent as possible, there will be occasions when the timings of some aspects detailed below may change, for reasons that are beyond the control of the teachers.

Sparrows' class teacher is Miss Freeman. Over the course of the year, the children will also be taught by Mrs Chapman, Miss Bull (PE), Mr Robinson (Music).

### Independent Learners

In Reception, children are encouraged to become responsible for their belongings. This includes:

- Bringing in their reading books and reading diaries every day.
- Emptying their book bags.
- Handing in and taking home letters and work.
- Making sure that no jewellery, earrings, studs or nail polish are worn. Please check that these are removed before school.
- Keeping track of bags, clothing and belongings throughout the day.

Please support your child by encouraging these skills and ensuring that **all items are clearly labelled**. Jumpers and cardigans are always hard to keep track of and it is more difficult to return lost items if they do not have their name in.

### Homework

We provide one piece of English one week, the following week one piece of maths. This is based around the children's learning in class for that week. Please read with our child every day and comment in their diary. At least two or three times a week please practise our child's sounds and keywords.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PE	All homework returned.	Music		Homework set. Forest School.

### Star Moments

We have enjoyed reading about your child's star moments which they have achieved at home and we would love to hear from you about any more star moments. It could be about your child's favourite story or how they built a tall tower, for example. Please hand a completed star to a member of staff whenever you would like to share the information.

### Tapestry

We hope that you have been enjoying following your child on tapestry. If you require an additional log-in then please do let me know.

We are always keen to ensure parents are involved in the learning process and welcome any feedback on activities you have done at home that will help staff gain a broader picture of our child's learning and development.

## Reading Diaries

Children should read every night, with a minimum of five entries into their reading diary each week. After reading a few pages, please discuss the book with your child to help develop their understanding. Along with reading, please continue to encourage your child to practise their letters and sounds, as well as reading their keywords, as this will help them to grow as independent readers.

My Reading Record		
Date	Book and page number	Comments
15/11 J	Gumbeck's Chocolatey Day	hubray choce
17/11 JANE	Gumbeck's Chocolatey Day	We read the book as a group and all the children liked this book as much as Logan. ☺ JG
↓	KEYWORDS 14/15	Logan helped me to read the book to his sisbaro. He would tell us what was going to happen next. Logan used the words he remembered
17/11	Alphabet check 23/26	Logan tried really hard to remember the letters he didn't know. He did so well and enjoyed signing the alphabet
17/11	Sound check 38	Well done Logan, highest score yet!!! Logan has learnt some of the tricky sounds like no would never get stuck on. Great effort Logan!
Tricky words, or words to practise		Well done ★
New sounds I have spotted (e.g. night rain)		

## Broad and Balanced Curriculum

On the next page please find a copy of our curriculum map showing the main topics we will be covering.

As always, your support of all that our child does is of enormous value to them and we will be most grateful for your continued support. Parent teacher meetings are scheduled to take place on the afternoons of 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March between 3:30 and 7:00pm. Details of how to book an appointment will be sent out later in the half term.

With regards,

C Freeman

Miss Freeman

**Reception****Spring 2018****Religion**

In Religion we continue to follow The Way, The Truth & The Life. This term the children will be focusing on 'Getting to know Jesus,' that He loves us and how we can show our love for Him. That Jesus cured sick people and to know who helps us when we are sick. The second topic will be 'Sorrow and Joy' focusing on understanding how Jesus was kind and forgave, and understanding that we can do this too. Throughout this topic we will be looking at simple Bible stories.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

In PSED, Reception will be learning how to be nice to each other and working together as a group in work and play, following the rules in place for different situations. They are learning to share with each other and to be aware how other children may feel and become aware of their needs. We want them to feel confident in trying out a range of new activities and talk about why we prefer certain activities and to feel confident asking for help when they need it.

**Communication and Language**

In Communication and Language, children are learning to listen. To develop this we will practise our listening skills in a range of different situations, including stories. Children will learn to respond to and answer 'how' and 'why' questions about stories and comment with our own thoughts and feelings. Through various activities the children will be provided with opportunities to extend their vocabulary, by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words. The children will be developing their skills by introducing storylines or narratives into their play.

**Physical Development**

During the Spring term, Reception will develop their fine motor skills through a range of different activities, including being able to hold and control scissors and pencils safely. The children will be expected to dress and undress independently with increasing speed. Reception will continue to learn about basic ball skills through different games; this includes basketball and football skills. They should become familiar with how to throw and catch different equipment, as well as improve their hand/eye co-ordination through this. They will also be learning about how to move their body and make excellent performances in dance.

**Literacy**

In Literacy the children will be developing their understanding of rhyme and alliteration through simple activities. There will be a focus on children segmenting and blending sounds/letters to support both their independent reading and writing, which will benefit them when writing sentences in meaningful contexts. Children take part in daily phonic groups based upon their understanding of the sounds along with short bursts of phonic inputs as a whole class.

**Mathematics**

In Maths we will continue to follow the Mathematics Mastery programme. This will include in number - adding and subtracting, estimating, recognising, understanding and ordering numbers to 20. In shape, space and measure, the children will be sequencing and ordering familiar events and learning to use everyday language related to time. Children will also learn to recognise and name familiar 2-d shapes.

**Understanding the World**

In UW, and within Forest School sessions, the children will be looking at similarities and differences, for example: seasons and how trees change from Winter to Spring. They will be encouraged to discuss what happens and why. To develop their technological skills children will learn how to select and complete age- appropriate games on the computer.

**Expressive Arts and Design**

In EAD the children will be learning to explore different techniques, tools and materials safely, which they can use to adapt what they see and make. Children will also be encouraged to independently experiment with colour, design, texture, form and function.