



St Mary's Catholic First School
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Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



Spring Term 2019 – Reception Class

A happy New Year and welcome to the Spring term!



On **Thursday 24th January at 2:00pm** I would like to invite all Reception parents to join the children for a teddy bears picnic as a part of our topic. A sign-up sheet will be available for families to volunteer to bring a plate of food. Such as carrot sticks, cocktail sausages or sandwiches.



This term our new topic is Bears. The children will be learning about stories involving bears such as We're Going on a Bear Hunt and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We will learn about bears in their habitats, diet and behaviour. This topic is great fun and the children will learn lots! Attached to this letter is the topic web giving you a breakdown of what we hope to achieve.

Our topic involves a lot of hands on experiences and lots of them will be outside, please ensure that your children brings a warm, waterproof coat every day.



A date for your diary, on the 4th February your child will be taking part in a dance festival with the rest of the class at Damers First School. The event starts at 1:30 until 2:30.

Small reminder: Please make sure you bring your child to school in their school clothes on Wednesday with the PE bag. We will get them changed after lunch and they will be sent home in their kit.

Phonics Workshops will take place weekly; these sessions will take place in class sharing how to support your children at home with their learning.
Please try to attend the sessions if you can!

Monday 21st January @ 2.30pm
Thursday 31st January @ 9.00am
Tuesday 5th February @ 2.30pm
Monday 11th February @ 9.00am

Any questions or queries please feel free to ask.

Mrs Coffin
Reception class teacher

<u>Personal, Social & Emotional Development</u> Reception have made a fantastic start to their school lives and made lots of positive friendships! We will be continuing this development through problem solving and circle time ensuring we are aware of how others feel and how to be a good friend. We will be trying to develop our confidence enabling us to think about what we are good at and share our ideas when facing a new activity or challenge. Linked to this we are going to be thinking about when we need help and who may help us if we are stuck. Our topic Bears will also give us opportunities to think about caring for something other than ourselves and working as a team. We will be looking at how characters feel in stories such as Goldilocks and We're Going on a Bear Hunt.	<u>Communication and Language</u> Our topic this half term gives the children a lot of opportunity to learn new vocabulary, ask questions and explain their own knowledge. With focussing on building the children's confidence through talking to their peers about what they have learnt. The children will be undertaking a project for their home learning and will be sharing that information with their friends. We will also continue our Talk for Writing with some focus stories linked to our topic that the children will learn. Our first story will be We're Going on a Bear Hunt. Once we have learnt the story we will then make changes to create our own! We will also be learning to give instructions to help our friends to help find a bear.	<u>Physical Development</u> The children's physical development both fine and gross motor is improving dramatically. They have been learning how to roll a ball to a specific place and move with control to a safe space. This term our focus in PE is dance. We shall be linking this to our topic and thinking of ways to move to the music in preparation for a dance festival. We will continue our Funky fingers work helping us to build our fine motor muscles. We will be thinking very carefully about how to look after ourselves and keep healthy. Later in the term we will be looking at our diet and exploring different healthy foods. Now that we are getting changed for PE on Wednesday, Mrs Coffin will also be looking to see who can dress independently.
<u>Maths</u> This term the children will be helping Mrs Coffin to solve lots of problems. Counting bears for a teddy bears picnic and finding out how many animals are left when some disappear! We will be focussing heavily on number bond knowledge and our understanding of teen numbers. (This is also a tricky concept so please support at home with the Tapestry home learning. We will also be learning about different 2D & 3D shapes and their properties. We will be investigating shape and how to make patterns and pictures with them.	<i>Reception Class Topic Web</i> <i>Spring Term 2019</i> Bears 	<u>Literacy</u> The children have been brilliant at learning their set 1 sounds and learning set 2. This can be confusing so lots of home support is needed. (refer to Tapestry for our new sounds each week.) We will be learning We're Going on a Bear Hunt and making adaptations to form our own story. We are going to be accessing lots of books linked to our topic and finding out new information. The children are going to be working on being an independent writer and knowing how / what resources help.
<u>Understanding the World</u> Our Topic this term provides us with so many opportunities to develop in this area. We will begin to understand the different types of bear, their habitat, the food they eat and comparing their body. We will be learning to care for living things in our environment and make observations about the changes that happen with the new seasons. We will also compare our own environment with different bear habitats. We will also be learning how to use BeeBots and other programmable toys for a purpose.	<u>Exploring Art & Design</u> The children will be combining media to create different effects and exploring how colours can be made/ changed. We will think carefully about how to use tools and techniques in order to complete a project. This term we will be designing and making different creative projects linked to our topic. We will also look closely at bears to help us create an accurate representation whilst making a puppet.	