



*Holy Family Catholic Primary School*

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*We pray together. We play together. We learn together.*

# Reception Newsletter

15<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school! We hope you all had a lovely Easter holiday. It has been lovely to hear all of the fantastic things the children have been getting up to.

## Come and See

This week we have begun the new topic of 'Good News' in our RE sessions. In this topic the children are being helped to understand that some days can be holidays and that Pentecost was a special day when Jesus' promise came true. The children have spent lots of time talking about their own good news in a variety of ways. We have also talked about different ways we can spread news. The children have become new reporters- reporting what they have been getting up to over the holidays. They have also made post cards as part of their Big Draw this week.

## Letters and Sounds

In Letters and Sounds we have been recapping Phase 3 sounds already learnt and learning some new sounds. We have been focusing on orally blending and segmenting words with double and triple letter sounds. I will continue to inform you of what high frequency words we have been covering.

We will also be focusing on reading simple sentences using high frequency words. It is very important that the children have a good sight vocabulary as well as being able to sound out and blend.

It is important that the children are able to hear the sounds in the words and are able to tell you how many sounds i.e. gran has 4 sounds g r a n, the children can sometimes say gr a n, which is only 3 sounds, c r a sh has 4 sounds also.

## Guided Read

The children have a guided read session at least once a week with me. In this time the children share a book with one another whilst being supported. In a guided session the children will read a book at an appropriate level and are given lots of support by their teacher. It is during these sessions that the

children learn to apply the knowledge they have gained in Letters and Sounds and Literacy carpet time sessions.

As well as being able to read the text it is important that the children can talk about and answer questions about the story as well as make predictions as to what might happen next.

### Reading Books/RARA books

RaRa books will continue to be changed on a Monday. If your child has not finished their book please write in their diary that you wish to keep it for a bit longer.

Home reading books will also continue to be given out on a Monday. The books I choose for your child are usually chosen so that they can read them with ease. Reading at home should be a pleasurable experience and your child should approach a book with confidence. You may notice that books may be repeated. This is because the children do enjoy familiar books and by reading books they know it also helps to develop their sight vocabulary.

### Big Talk and Big Draw

The children are being encouraged to become confident talkers and use the correct terms when speaking. This will help them when they start to write and they know they have to write a sentence that makes sense. The children are becoming good at recognising what a super sentence needs and are starting to identify full stops, question marks and exclamation marks in their reading. They also need to know when to use them when writing.

This term we will be encouraging the children to develop their fine and gross motor skills at their level. Every Friday we will be completing our 'Big Draw' session. This is in line with 'Big Write' which is done throughout the school.

This week the Big Draw has been linked to their Come and See topic of 'Good News' the children have all created their own postcards.

### Maths

The children will be focusing on:

- Saying the number next to and before a given number up to 20
- Counting out objects up to 20 and more
- Reading numbers up to 20
- Addition and subtraction of numbers up to 10
- Counting in 2's and 5's and 10's
- Measuring and weighing, naming 3D shapes (sphere, cone, cuboid and cube)
- Telling the time on the hour and problem solving with money

## PE

This week the children have had a PE session with a Widnes Vikings instructor- his name is Declan. These sessions will continue through-out the course of this term. The children will enjoy a variety of ball games developing their throwing and catching skills.

Please ensure that your child's pumps do fit them. The children will be wearing them this term as we will be practising for Sports Day. As usual please make sure that the pumps and all PE kits are labelled. Could you also please label your child's shoes as the children tend to have very similar shoes.

As the weather gets warmer the children will no longer need their wellies but they will need a cheap pair of croc shoes which can be purchased from Poundland. These are ideal for outdoor play and water play and can be left in school. Clearly labelled of course!

## Learning Stories

I would like to thank all the parents who have sent learning stories back to school. We love hearing about what you have been doing at home with your child. Almost everything you do with your child is a learning story so document it in any way you can and send it in to school. The children also love to share their experiences with us and their friends. Any learning that takes place at home can be used as evidence towards your child's profile.

The children's learning journey files are brilliant. We try to keep them up to date by adding any learning stories that you send in.

## Recyclable Material

I am hoping to make a collection of recyclable material for the children to explore when playing outdoors. If you have any of the following items at home which you no longer require, then we would be very grateful for them: mobile phones, cameras, hair dryers, key boards, plugs, wires, tubing, card board tubes, plastic containers, scarves, ribbons, clocks, bobbles, jewellery, bags, suitcases, boxes, cartons, plastic milk bottle tops, anything really that is not too big and can be stored. Please send them in.

## Snack Money

Snack money is paid on a half-termly basis. This half term Snack money will be £10.50. The children, as always, are provided with a healthy snack. If snack money is still outstanding from previous terms can you please send it in with this term's money.

## Reading

Please keep up all of the good work reading at home, remembering only to spend about 5/10 minutes per evening on any task. Your children are making excellent progress through your continued support and encouragement at home.

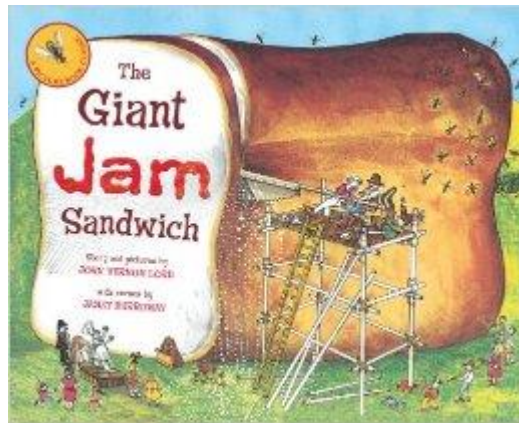
Thank you for your continued support,  
Miss Smith, Ms Connolly & Miss Langton ☺

Dates for Diary

Gruffalo trip - 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016

## We Love to Read!

This week in Reception we have read...



**What was your favourite part?**

If you have a book at home that you love to read maybe you would like to bring it in to share with the class at story time.