

Reception Curriculum Letter

Autumn Term September-December 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Our Lady of Victories Reception. I am very excited about our first term and welcoming your child into their Reception Year. I am planning a wonderful term of learning focussed on two topics: '**Super me**', which is all about getting to know each other, things we like and dislike using our senses, our families and people that help us to stay Super!

We will finish the half-term with a Diwali celebration enjoying all the sights, sounds and excitement from the festival of light. This will lead us nicely into our second topic called '**Once upon a celebration**', which will focus on the change of seasons and another loud and colourful festival of Bonfire night. We will then enjoy some well-know fairy tales on our run up to Christmas. The children will be learning and developing key skills in each of the following areas listed below through a range of carpet sessions, focus group work and independent choice.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Yepes

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Over the Autumn term our first R.E topic is learning about how God made our Wonderful World as well as how God made us and loves us. We will be reading stories from the bible and taking part in different role-plays, songs and crafts to help us to understand how much God loves us, we are part of his family and that we are special. In the second half of the term we will also learn about Advent and Christmas. Starting with the Angel visiting Mary and the exciting time of the birth of Jesu Christ. The children will learn the story of Christmas through our class nativity performance. Please refer to the separate RE curriculum newsletter for further information.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PSED)

Starting off in Reception it is really important that we help the children develop their independence, which will build their confidence and pride in themselves and their learning. We will spend the first part of Autumn Term helping the children to settle into their new routines, access their new classroom and making new friends. The children will be talking about things they like and dislike to help us see similarities and differences in each other. As the children get to know their new areas, they will learn new behavioural boundaries and why it is important to respect each other and their environment. As friendships grow we will help the children talk through any problems they may have and show them ways to resolve any conflicts. Please talk to your children about discussing their feelings and reassuring them that it is good to talk about how you are feeling and asking for help. Encourage your child to be independent with activities at home as this will support their social development.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT (PD)

Fine motor skills are a very important part of Reception in the Autumn Term, we need to make sure your children's hands are nice and strong to start their journey into writing. To help them build those muscles we will be doing some 'Dough Disco', tweezers and threading activities as well as daily practice with pens and pencils. Please have pencils and pens available for your children and encourage all forms of mark marking. We will have P.E on a Tuesday, please come dressed in P.E kits on that day. A simple tool to help your child with their physical development is allowing them to dress themselves; putting on their own shirts / jackets and trying buttons. During P.E lessons we are focussing on negotiating space ensuring we don't bump into other, different ways of moving and learning simple games to play together.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE (C&L)

This term the children will continue to develop their communication and language skills in a variety of ways. Through daily story and role-play sessions the children will begin to learn new vocabulary and develop an understanding of story language and characters. Classroom wall displays show topic related key vocabulary that children will become familiar with and use during activities. They will begin to build up a repertoire of songs, rhymes and chants. The children will also be developing the ability to attend assemblies and listen to stories/group discussions with greater focus and for longer periods. With this growing ability we want the children's confidence to grow so they can speak in front of the class and others and begin to ask relevant questions. Please support your child at home with their language development by ensuring they are asking and answering in full sentences.

MATHEMATICS (MATHS)

The Autumn term is all about learning what Maths is all about. The first half-term we are looking into matching, sorting and comparing different amounts. Then moving onto comparing size, mass and capacity. During our Diwali week we will also be looking more closely at patterns and shapes. We will introduce the numbers 1-5 using the very entertaining Number blocks ensuring that we are deepening the children's knowledge about number. We want the children to be able to recognise, count, write and show a number in a variety of ways including knowing one more and one less. Your children will receive a Mathletics password, which is an online maths programme where if your children have access to a computer they can complete different challenges independently. To support your child with their maths please talk to them about the days of the week, times of the day and how you buy things.

LITERACY (LIT)

Our school follows the Read Write Inc programme where we teach the children all the phonic sounds to start their reading and writing journey. We teach the sounds of the letters rather than the name of the letter e.g. mmmmm not 'em' for m. The children will be coming home with letters to practice, please help them to say the sound and the pictures also provide them with a pencil or pen to support them in forming them. Once the sounds have been taught we start blending the sounds together to read simple words c-a-t = cat. We will also be teaching the children to use these sounds and simple words to start labelling their work. Throughout the term we will read many books and the children will participate in various independent and focus activities that develop their understanding of story structure, character and setting. We will use puppets, role play props, and picture cards to help the understanding of the story and to support in re-telling. To support your child develop their literacy skills please be positive with any writing they want to do at home and ensure that if any sounds or books come home that they are read or practised.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD (KUW)

Our first topic 'Super me' the children will be encouraged to think about who they are and what makes them special and unique. We will be encouraging them to talk about their family and how they help to make them Super and also people in our communities that help us. Talking about the things that they see and people they interact with help the children get a sense of their world and will deepen their understanding of it. We will be learning and taking part in lots of celebrations this term with Diwali, Bonfire night and of course Christmas. Taking part in different celebrations helps the children to understand that not everyone celebrates the same thing but we can all join in and respect each other. We will also learn about the change of season, looking at our environment and noticing the physical differences. The children will have an I.C.T slot every week where they will learn to log on to a computer independently, access a programme and work on their mouse skills.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN (EAD)

Children love to express themselves creatively and during this term we want to offer lots of different ways they can do that. We will start with concentrating on the children being able to create simple representations of things e.g. drawing/painting themselves, friends and family. The children need to think about which colours they will use and why. They could prefer to build or construct using various construction materials to show their creativity and again we will support them in talking about their decisions and making sure they have a clear purpose in mind. We will show the children a range of different tools to help cut, stick and decorate. They will be supported as they use them safely and independently. We will learn a wide range of songs and experiment with instruments and of course, our singing will be proudly displayed at our assembly and nativity performance at Christmas.

Tapestry – Learning Journals

Hopefully, you will have logged on to Tapestry, this app is designed to share your child's learning journey with you at home. You can also send me photos of anything your child has done at home that they are proud of, we like to refer to them as WOW moments e.g. Riding a bike, completing a puzzle they found tricky, getting dressed all by themselves, spotting numbers etc.

Google Classroom

You have a login for Google Classroom; this is an online website where all information will be shared. There will be a Friday letter informing you of the week's activities and any up and coming information. There will also be the home learning activity and any useful videos I feel would be helpful to share with the children.

Reading books

Once your children have been taught the majority of the sounds then we will be sending home reading books. They will receive 1 or 2 books every Friday. Please ensure that your child reads every day with an adult and the adult signs the Reading Record. We recommend the children read the books 3 times, once for decoding (sounding out), twice for confidence and the third for fluency. They will also bring home a Library book to share with you for Story Time.

**The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.**

Dr. Seuss

