

Reception Class Newsletter



Autumn Term 2017

Important reminders

- Please make sure all items of uniform are clearly named
- Please make sure any money sent into school is in a labeled envelope
- Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school every day
- Homework will be sent home on Fridays beginning 30th September
- Please ensure your child has a coat in school every day as we love to be outdoors
- Please send in a pair of labelled wellies for your child which can stay in school

Welcome to Holy Trinity

We would like to welcome you all to Holy Trinity School. We hope you have had a fantastic summer and are looking forward to what we are sure will be a great school year.

This newsletter contains useful information about what you should expect from the Autumn term.

If at any time you have any questions or you are unsure of anything please ask! Staff are always happy to speak to you if you have any questions or concerns. If we are unable to see you at the beginning of the day please make an appointment at a convenient time.

What does learning look like in Reception?

Our starting topic will be 'All About Me'. After this, we will develop topics based on the children's interests as often as possible.

We like the children to be involved in planning their topic work and so the aim is to give the children 'ownership' of their learning and to develop their creative and critical thinking skills. The staff know which skills the children need to learn and also when each child is ready to develop these further. The children tell us what they would like to learn about a topic and we take it from there!

The staff will be constantly observing the children to see how they learn best, what stage they are at in their learning and what they need to learn next. This process ensures that each child's learning experience is accurately matched to their needs and they will have the best learning experience possible whilst in the Reception class.

Below is some information about each area of learning and the skills the children will be developing during the Autumn term.

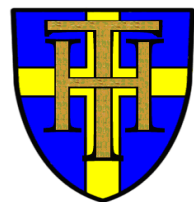
Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Throughout this term we will be encouraging the children to make new friends, develop existing relationships and support each other through an exciting but potentially nervous time. We will reinforce the importance of sharing, taking turns and discuss with the children who they can talk to if they are worried or concerned about anything at school.

We will be encouraging the children to be confident about speaking to others about their own wants and interests and to have a positive self-image

Communication and Language

The Children will be developing key skills such as listening and following instructions, sharing ideas and opinions with others and extending their vocabulary by exploring the meaning and sounds of new words. We will provide plenty of opportunities for the children to listen attentively in a range of situations, responding to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. We will encourage them to express themselves clearly developing an awareness of the listener and building confidence in



Our motto is:

Alta Pete – Aim High

"The primary aim of the school is to help each pupil reach his or her full potential so that they may develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge to take full advantage of the opportunities available in their future lives."

speaking in a familiar group. Asking questions, talking about events and following instructions are all an intrinsic part of our daily routines and activities.

Physical Development

In PE lessons, the children will be developing gymnastic skills, playing games and participating in dance and movement activities

Physical development extends beyond the taught lessons and prevails in all areas of our setting. In the Foundation Stage, physical development covers both gross and fine motor skills and large and small scale movements. The children will have the opportunity to develop large muscle movements through activities including riding bikes and scooters, climbing apparatus, dancing with ribbons and everyday activities such as gardening or playing ball games. Similarly, small scale muscle movements will be developed through engaging in manipulative activities such as playdough, threading, sewing, building Duplo/Lego, cooking, drawing and water colour painting.

Literacy

Once the children have settled into school we will begin our daily phonics lessons. This is when the children will learn the letter sounds and names along with the blending and segmenting skills they will need to read and write independently.

We cannot emphasize enough the importance of spending time sharing books and reading to and with your child. Developing a love of books and reading will help your child to become an enthusiastic, independent reader.

Progression in reading is not just about being able to say the words on the page. Children must first become 'storytellers' in order to develop a sense of inference, reasoning about characters, events, word choices and effects. So don't be surprised when their first books have no words in them!

In order to support their learning you might like to try the following:

Talk about the characters - What are they like? Good or bad? Why? How are they feeling? Discuss the events and relate them to your child's own experiences e.g.

Do you remember when you did that? Predict what will happen next before reading on. Can you think of a different word instead of the one used in the book?

Maths

We will be supporting the children with recognising, ordering and writing numerals 1-20. We do a lot of counting, sorting and organising groups of real objects in class, sometimes involving larger numbers. At home you could help by saying number names in counting everyday objects (touching each object and saying one number name for each); repeating songs and rhymes such as '1 2 3 4 5, once I caught a fish alive', and '1, 2 buckle my shoe'.

Understanding different values of numbers often starts with hearing stories like The Three Little Pigs or songs and rhymes like 5 Green and Speckled frogs and 10 fat sausages. We will be supporting the children to begin to say the number that is one more or one less than a given number.

At school and home we can help children thread beads and arrange toys and construction kits so they learn to talk about, recognise and recreate simple patterns, using everyday words like 'in front', 'behind', 'beside', to describe position. Helping unload shopping, and playing in the kitchen helps children develop language such as 'circle' and 'bigger' to describe the shape and size of solids and flat shapes; and 'greater', 'smaller', 'heavier', or 'lighter' to compare quantities.

Understanding The World

The children will be developing their computing skills by using a range of equipment, including iPads, BeeBots, cameras, remote controlled toys, music systems, etc. The children will have regular access to a computer and other ICT resources throughout every school day.

To enhance the children's learning we will be introducing them to [Forest School](#), where they will have opportunities to explore and engage with their natural environment, learning through play outdoors in all weathers, through the seasons.

Expressive arts and design

The children will be developing their creative skills by expressing their ideas and feelings through music, art, dance and drama. The children will be building a repertoire of songs and dances and will be given the opportunity to explore musical instruments. The children will have continuous access to a large range of construction and craft materials to aid their learning in this area

We hope you have found this information helpful.

