



In addition to our half termly newsletter, please keep up to date through the **school newsletter**, **school app** and **twitter page**.

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Reception class transition visits 2nd and 3rd September	2 Pre-school first day at school!	3		1 Nip
5	EYFS and Year 1 Parent Coffee morning.	7	8 Please keep up to date with all school news by downloading the school app and through our Twitter feed!	9	10	2 Flip
12	13	14	15	16	17	3 Grip
Reception Class: At home you could practise 'Nip, flip and grip' to support your child's effective pencil grip. To help support your child's writing posture, gently encourage them to sit with their chair tucked under, feet flat on the floor, with their writing hand and arm resting on the table and their page tilted slightly.						
19 	20 We love reading! At home you could have lots of fun together reading and talking about books, poems, leaflets, comics, maps and much more! You could even make up and act out / paint / draw your own stories! Have fun nurturing your child's love of reading!	21	22	23	24 	25
26	In Pre-school we are having fun using numbers in our play, for example, 'I have got two teddies. How many teddies have you got? Let's count together, 1, 2, 3.' At home perhaps you could use play and everyday opportunities to practise counting small groups of objects e.g. when you are shopping, playing, eating snacks...					

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Reception class have been learning fantastic Monster phonics! Which graphemes (letters that are written down, e.g. 's' on a Stop sign) can you recognise when you are out and about? Have fun playing I spy; see if you can guess the phonemes (letter sounds that you say) that different objects begin with, e.g. 't' for table.					
3	4	5 	6 Reception Class are learning how to subitise! At home your child could practise their subitising skills e.g. by looking at a bowl of apples and knowing there are three there without having to count them!	7	8	9
10	Outdoor classroom day is on the 12th October - please could your Pre-school child arrive wrapped up warm!		13	14	15	16
17 	Pre-school Planet Protectors Days will be this week! Please come dressed in autumn colours.		20	21 	22 Break up for half term	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Half term						

Welcome to an exciting new school year!

We are so looking forward to welcoming your family to St Joseph's Early Years and supporting your child as they settle into Preschool or Reception class ready to embark on their fantastic learning adventure! We would like to remind you that the PTFA are providing a coffee morning for EYFS and Year 1 parents on Monday 6th September at 9.10am. Please pop in for a drink and the opportunity to meet other parents.

Your child has an amazing year ahead and look forward to working in partnership with you to support them.

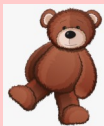
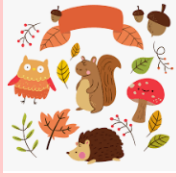
Miss Cartwright (EY Lead and Reception class teacher), Mrs Cooper (Preschool Supervisor) and the Early Years Team

Pre-school News

This half term we have lots of exciting things happening in Pre-School! We will especially be focusing upon developing children's skills in the prime areas of Physical development, Personal, Social and Emotional development, and Communication and Language as they settle in and also throughout the half term. This will include learning our class golden rules, getting to know one another and beginning to talk about ourselves.

Each week One of our Class friends will be sent home with a child with a notebook for your child to draw a picture, add a photograph and for you to write a bit about the weekend adventures. Please return with your child at their first session the following week for the children to talk about. Please be aware that any photographs that you add to the book will be seen by other classmates and their families.

As we embrace the autumn we will be exploring the changes of this season. As part of this theme, during the week of 18th October the children will also be invited to come dressed in autumn colours for our Planet Protectors Day as we investigate autumn changes outdoors!



We are having a Teddy Bears' Picnic Tuesday 14th September (pm). The children will need to bring a teddy bear or cuddly friend to join them on their adventure!

We have some exciting trips around the local area (subject to COVID guidance) starting with our library trip on the 22nd September in the afternoon, to choose a book to bring home. As soon as we have confirmed dates for the other trips we will let you know, and if you are available to attend as a parent helper please let us know. Mrs Cooper will be sending out the form for completion children who attend on a Wednesday afternoon to receive a library card; please could you return this to us by 14th September to allow plenty of time for the library to process the forms. We are also hoping to go on a trip to explore local surroundings on 6th October in the afternoon.

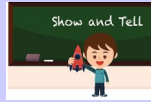
Please could you send your child with at least one named change of clothes and a waterproof coat along with a pair of welly boots ready to enjoy the fun outdoor activities we have planned this half term in all weathers. We always have outside play available and will often go on a phonics walk, or a welly walk to name a few as we explore the school grounds.



I wonder what amazing things we will see and find!

Reception Class News

As we start our wonderful new learning journey and build up friendships in Reception, the children will be learning our Golden Rules: 'Be a good friend'; 'Share'; 'Have kind hands'; 'Have a kind mouth'; and 'Work together'. We will be discussing how to be a good friend, and exploring feelings and emotions through stories, circle times, games and our Golden Rules.



In our second week we will introduce Show and Tell every week. This is a favourite activity in Reception class and it supports children's language and communication brilliantly! By the end of their first week children will bring home details of their Show and Tell group and the day that they will have Show and Tell each week. Please could your child bring in one item each week, ensuring: it is small enough to fit in their school tray; it is not an expensive or precious item; it is not an item which can take photos, video or accesses the internet. Our theme for this half term is 'My favourite toy'!

In Reception class we are Maths Ninjas! We will be learning all about numbers 0-5, exploring each number in depth, including recognising these numbers, learning number formation rhymes to support writing numbers, matching numerals to quantities, being involved in fun and practical maths challenges, and learning to subitise small groups of objects!

We will be complimenting the reading opportunities that your child has at home through daily story time sessions including fiction and non-fiction books, poems, traditional tales and more! The Bible story of Creation is one of the stories we will be learning in more depth; we will be exploring songs and art linked to the story.

Children will have reading logs and reading books to take home from Reception class within the first two weeks of starting school. Further information about reading books, reading at home and guided reading in school will be included in the front cover of your child's reading log. We are very excited to be introducing Monster Phonics in St Joseph's! We will soon send details regarding a parents Monster Phonics Webinar where you can learn all about this fantastic, fun phonics program and find out about how you can support your child at home. Please look out for these details in the school newsletter.

In order to support children's early writing skills we will be practising using an effective pencil grip and good writing posture in reception class. This month children will be practising writing their names and will also soon begin daily handwriting practice!

Other exciting learning includes the children being involved in a super sneezing experiment as we learn about the 'Catch it, Bin it' rule, and how to be 'Handwashing Heroes'! In PE we will be having fun and exploring football skills including dribbling and passing. This half term we will be reading Tom and the lost island of dinosaurs' by Ian Beck and receiving a mystery parcel!!!! I wonder what will be in there?!!!!

