

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Part of St John Bosco Catholic Academy Company

HILLCREST ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS, DY2 7PW

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break; it has been lovely to welcome you all back. All the children in EYFS have settled in well and back to our routines in the classroom, well done to everyone. This is final term of the academic – not sure where the time has gone! There are lots of exciting things during this term which I hope the children will look forward to. In Reception, we will be working together to make the smooth transition into Year 1. We have already begun this journey and the children are really embracing this independence. We are so proud of them.

A few notices and reminders I would like to share with you:

- Nursery am session begins at 8.30 – 11.30 and Nursery pm session begins at 12.30 – 3.30 (with flexible collection from 3.15) We have a flexible arrival time for am session until 8.45 and pm session until 12.40. If children do arrive after this time, then you will need to drop your child at the office.
- Reception timings are 8.45 – 3.15 – We will close the door and gate at 9.00. If children do arrive after this time, then you will need to drop your child at the office.
- Your child will need a labelled water bottle in school every day.
- Please ensure uniform items are clearly labelled (jumpers and cardigans especially) this will help locate any missing clothing items quickly.
- Reception children will be sent home every Friday with their Homework bags and their Home School Link Book. These will need to be school for the following Wednesday.
- Nursery children will take their Home School Link book home every Friday to be brought back to school the following week.

Please don't hesitate to speak to myself or anyone in Nursery or Reception if you have any questions, queries or concerns. We are all here to listen and support. Thank you for your continued support, it is very much appreciated.

Many Thanks

Miss Marsh (Reception Teacher and EYFS Leader)

What are we learning about?

This half term our topic is In the Garden and after May half term our topic is Under the Sea. Some the stories we will be sharing are The Tiny Seed, Superworm, Grandpa's Garden, Sharing a Shell, Commotion in the Ocean and Mister Seahorse.

In RE, both Nursery and Reception will be focusing on Easter, Pentecost, People who help us, Prayer, God's Family, Special Celebrations.

Maths

Nursery – exploring and applying numbers, writing numbers, shapes (2D and 3D) and positional language.

Special days / Dates:

These are just some key dates for Summer Term

- Monday 23rd April – Reception Class Saint Day – children to come in their own clothes.
- Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th April – RE Parent Workshop – letters to follow for Reception Parents
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- Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday (School closed)
- Wb Monday 20th May – Celebration of Prayer and Faith Week

Reception – We have started to follow the Busy Ants Maths Scheme – used by the rest of the school alongside our Number Sense lessons. This term we will be looking at adding and subtracting, counting in 2's, 5's and 10's, doubling and halving, grouping and sharing and money.

Literacy

Nursery – identifying parts of the book, looking at different signs and symbols, recognising initial sounds and begin to make marks to show letters in their name.

Reception – continuing to develop our phonics awareness through our Read Write Inc (RWI) programme. We are looking at sequencing narrative texts, looking at describing settings and developing our sentence writing thinking about finger spaces and capital letters.

- Wb Monday 1st July – Brilliant in Britain and Ten: Ten RHE

Other dates of events will follow in School Newsletter

Values for Spring Term:

Eloquent and Truthful – before half term

The children are learning to be **ELOQUENT** in the way they speak about their faith, their love of God, and the way they speak about themselves, others and the world that God created.

They are learning to be **TRUTHFUL** and honest in all that they do, learning how to remain true to God's teachings even when this is very difficult to do.

Learned and Wise – after half term

Learned – Learning everything we can from Jesus' teachings – not just learning the stories, but learning the meanings and morals of what Jesus teaches, and applying them to our daily lives.

Wise – Using everything we learn from Jesus to make right choices. Understanding that the right choice is often the hardest choice and knowing that Jesus' way is always the right way.