

John Paul Class

Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you had a wonderful break. Thank you to those families who completed the holiday homework.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you what your child will be learning about during this half term.

### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

This term we will be using a range of books in our Literacy lessons that all link to our main project: 'Ready steady grow'. Through these books we will continue to develop your child's listening, speaking, imagination and comprehension skills, while also expanding their vocabulary. This term they will begin to write simple sentences by applying their phonics skills; now including phase 3.

Alongside the books, we will be focusing on applying phase three of the phonics scheme and building up a bank of key words. Your child will be re-capping the phonic sounds within this phase and using these sounds to practice their blending and segmenting skills that are fundamental to successful reading. They will also start applying these skills to their writing and develop their independence writing words and short sentences.

Your child will continue to bring home a reading folder and a reading book, which we aim to change once a week. The days that we hear your child read continue to vary according to the week's events, so please ensure your child brings their reading folder to school each day. We will continue to send home books from our class book corner for you to share with your child, these will also be changed weekly. Please continue to comment in your child's reading record as this shared information is very informative to me.

Please continue to help your child learn the weekly key words and revisit those already covered; these are sent home every Tuesday. After our end of term assessments, it was very clear who had been practicing these at home and who had not- your efforts are so important. I really appreciate those of you who have been working hard on these; it gives your child a great advantage with their reading.

**Mathematics** This half term, we will continue to develop your child's concept of number within a range of 0-20. We will explore doubling and halving; count sets of objects accurately; order numbers; compare numbers, make bigger amounts using smaller amounts, match numbers to a group of objects, and vice versa. We will also consider one more and one less than a given number. Please continue to help by counting with your child in everyday situations.



### **Main Project: Ready Steady Grow**

This project teaches children about the changes that happen during the spring, including weather and the festivals that are celebrated at this time of year. This project also teaches children about food, farming and explores themes, including where food comes from, what plants and animals need to grow and survive and what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.

Throughout the project we will be planting seeds to grow our own food and flowers, observing changes as plants and animals grow and develop our understanding of changes over time in the natural world.

### **RE**

In RE, one of our new topics this term is 'Gathering' – we will learn what it means to gather together and how and why people do this and how this makes us feel to be part of a community.

This term, we will also be exploring our topic 'Growing' leading up to Easter where the children will learn how we can grow more like Jesus during lent. They will be learning the Easter story and what Easter means for the Christian community and how this is celebrated all around the world. The children will also develop their understanding to support making links to why as Catholics we use the symbol of the cross and recognise Good Friday and Easter Sunday as religious events.

We will have weekly class liturgy sessions which is a time when the children learn Bible stories and begin to share their ideas of prayer and worship.

### **Physical Development (PE)**

In P.E. we be exploring a variety of dances, learning to control a ball using our feet, this will include learning how to dribble, pass and shoot accurately towards a target. Your child must have the full PE kit: school tracksuit, black shorts, a T-shirt and plimsolls/trainers (preferably without laces) all kept together in a PE bag. **Please ensure that all items of P.E. kit and uniform are clearly marked your child's name.**

### **Homework**

We will continue to set homework every week on Thursday to be handed in on Monday – instructions of this will always be in your child's homework book. It is important to submit evidence of your child completing practical homework to *Evidence Me*. If you are still having difficulties accessing this, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can support you to get it set up.

If you have any enquiries or concerns, please contact the school office with a message and I will get back to you.

Many Thanks for your continued support,

*Miss Brockbank - John Paul Class Teacher*