



ST JOHN'S C of E INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL

Gills Hill Lane
Radlett
Hertfordshire
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01923856594

Head of School: Mrs L Gillam
Assistant Head of School: Miss L Barnes
Executive Headteacher: Mrs A Aharon

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www.sjins.org.uk

Tuesday 24th September 2024

Dear Reception Parents and Carers,

We have had a great first few weeks in Reception. It has been wonderful getting to know your children.

Our focus this half term will be ensuring the children are settled and happy at school. The theme will be 'Marvellous Me' where we will be sharing all the things that are marvellous about ourselves, such as our favourite foods, stories, games and things that we are interested in.

Every half term at St. John's we focus on a value which we talk about with the children to help them understand. The value this half term is 'Love' and we will be bringing this concept into our everyday learning and routines.

P.E

Reception have a weekly P.E session. These sessions will take place on a **Thursday**. The children will be changing for PE **at school** so please make sure they have a PE kit in school at all times. PE will begin on the week commencing **23rd September**.

Children will need a white t-shirt, black shorts/jogging bottoms. All items must be labelled including PE bags.

Reading Books

Children will be taking 2 library books home each week. They will choose their books on a Friday and bring them in the next Friday to be changed. Your child will not be able to take new library books home without bringing the old ones back. Your child will also have 1 reading book to practise their phonics which will also be sent home on a Friday with their reading record. Please write down each time you read their **reading book** with them in their reading record.

Homework

Each child will receive a homework book which will be sent home on a Friday. Homework will consist of two tasks a week. One will be related to the learning we are doing that week and one will be phonics. Homework should be returned every Wednesday. Homework will commence on **Friday 27th September**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us.

Many thanks,

R. A. Kutner 

Mrs Kutner and Miss Tinning





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Reception Curriculum Overview

Below are the seven areas of learning we will be supporting your child in. This first half term is about building relationships, establishing routines and promoting a positive learning environment. Here are some examples of how you can support your child at home.

Autumn Term Theme: Marvellous Me!
Personal, Social and Emotional Development
Our value this half term is Love, you could talk about who you love and how you show love. Generating positive classroom rules. E.g. We can be kind and gentle / We can try our best/ We can wait our turn/ We can look after our equipment/ We can listen to each other. Developing confidence to select activities and resources. Encourage your child to get things for themselves. Understand how to use resources and put them away. Praise your child when they tidy away. Develop confidence to play and talk with others. Be able to ask for help. Encourage your child to use their words when they want something. E.g. help me please/ please can I have... Develop taking turns and waiting for a turn. If playing games with your child praise them for good waiting and encourage turn taking.
Communication & Language
Develop concentration and attention skills on self-chosen and adult directed activities. Develop language skills, link statements and stick to main theme or intention. "I went to the zoo and I saw a giraffe. It had a long neck." Listens to and responds to others ideas in conversations.
Physical Development
Develop movement such as balancing, climbing and riding (balance bike). Be able to run and avoid obstacles. Use one handed tools such as tweezers/ scissors/ pencils/ bats/ spoons and forks to feed themselves. Begin to be independent at getting dressed. Encourage your child to put on their own socks, shoes, jumper and coat.
Mathematics
Number songs, counting forward and backwards. (5 little ducks, 5 little monkeys, 5 currant buns etc.) Times relevant to them: days of the week, lunch time, dinner time, bedtime. Counting accurately. Encourage your child to count toys, steps, trees etc. Number recognition. Encourage spotting numbers in the environment. Sorting groups. E.g. into colours, sizes, shapes, types (type of dinosaur). Comparing groups. E.g. this plate has more strawberries. Recognise and identify numbers on a dice without counting. This can be encouraged when playing games.
Literacy
Talk about and describe their favourite stories. "I like the Gruffalo, it's so funny." Listen to longer stories with attention. Can they listen to the end? Describe main events and characters in stories. "There are 3 bears in Goldilocks. They were angry at Goldilocks." When looking at a book, know where we start reading. E.g. Left to right. Can they point along as you read to them. Continue a rhyming string. E.g. Cat, mat, sat... Write their own name in lower case letters with some letters formed correctly. Hear the initial sounds in words. "Cat starts with a c." Represent some sounds in writing. Your child could write the first sound in a word and you could write the rest.
Understanding the World
Begin to talk about significant events in their own lives. (Celebrations/ holidays/ family events) Recognise special times or events for family or friends. (Birthdays/ new baby/ religious celebration) Begin to show care and concern for living things and the environment. (Look at bugs carefully/ put litter in the bin/ look after plants.) Explain how they have changed. "When I was a baby, I couldn't talk but now I can."
Expressive arts and design
Join in with singing, rhymes and dancing. Join in pretend play and role-play using imaginative talk. "I'm making dinner for the baby, then it's her bedtime." Use construction toys to build and balance. Begin to describe the texture of things. E.g. bumpy, smooth, soft, hard. Start to use different materials and tools for a purpose. E.g. using paint to paint a picture or using paper and tape to make a crown.

