

# St Catherine's Catholic Primary School



## Reception Spring Term 1

### Literacy

We will continue to use Drawing Club as part of our literacy sessions. During these sessions, the children will focus on writing CVC, CVCC and tricky words. Our focus stories will include a mixture of traditional tales, adventure stories, and stories from the past. We will enjoy sharing the stories *Lost and Found*, *The Snow Queen*, *Wacky Races*, *Iris and Isaac*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, and *Tintin*. We will also continue with daily name-writing practice, daily fine motor opportunities and class story time at least twice a day.

### Maths

In Maths this half term the children will continue to use subitising skills to explore and deeply understand the composition of numbers within 10, develop their knowledge of the counting sequence, compose and decompose numbers and compare sets of objects. We will also further develop our shape knowledge by continuing, copying and recreating patterns, composing and decomposing shapes and exploring how shapes can be made up of different shapes.

### Communication and Language

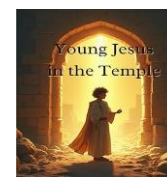
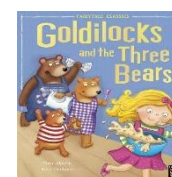
Our whole class carpet time, group activities and one to one sessions are designed to develop the children's listening and attention and understanding and speaking skills. This term we will be discussing key events in a story, answering questions and using present tense. We will continue to work on speaking in full sentences and encourage children to ask questions to find out more and check their understanding of what has been said to them.

### RE

In RE, the children will learn all about the local church, exploring the theme of 'Celebrating'. The children will talk about their own experiences and feelings about celebrations they have been part of, wonder why people celebrate and how they feel when they celebrate. They will recognise the story of Mary and Joseph taking Jesus to the Temple. We will encourage the children to respond in a variety of ways including verbally, through art and role play. Every day we will continue to practice making the sign of the cross and learn our school prayers. The children will participate in weekly whole school and class worships.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

It is our main priority to develop and nurture our children's personal, social and emotional development. This half term the children will learn about likes, dislikes and self-acceptance. They will learn how to describe different feelings, both good and bad and will learn that actions have consequences; that when we make mistakes, we should say sorry and ask for forgiveness.



### Understanding the World

Our topic this half term is Frozen Planet. Throughout this topic, the children will explore polar animals and their habitats, investigate maps and globes, and learn about winter and melting ice through hands-on activities. They will also explore magnets and take part in simple scientific investigations. We will learn about recycling and the importance of caring for our environment, helping the children to understand how they can look after the world around them.

### Expressive Arts and Design

Our adult led craft activities will be focused around our topic of 'Frozen Planet'. Our art area will continue to encourage our children to be independent in experimenting with different colours, materials and tools. In our Music sessions we will be working with the Music team from Piccolo. Here the children will engage in musical activities that embed pulse, rhythm and pitch, explore voices and percussion instruments.

### Physical Development

Our children will continue to engage in daily activities such as cutting, threading and mark making to support their fine motor skills and will have access to our balancing equipment, bikes and scooters to develop their gross motor skills. Our theme in PE is 'Gymnastics'. These sessions will support the development of our children's balance, flexibility and spatial awareness.

# St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have all had a restful Christmas break! The children have settled beautifully back into school routine. We have another exciting term ahead as we begin the new year. Please continue to look out for information on our school Facebook page, Seesaw, school newsletter and School Gateway email platform.

## **Key information**

Reading – Your child will receive a reading book linked to their Read Write Inc knowledge when they become secure in blending. Please read with them as often as possible and write in your child's reading diary when you do so. Please ensure that your child comes to school with their reading diary and resources every day.

Bookbags - Children should have a book bag to carry letters, reading book and reading record (when issued). This is to come to school every day.  
**No backpacks** please as we have limited room in the classroom/cloakroom.

Water bottles - Please send your child to school with their own water bottle every day. Please do not fill your child's water bottles with juice, water only. We replenish the water throughout the day.

School Meals - A reminder that school meals are free in Reception. We highly encourage parents to let their children have a free school meal as we believe it is important for children to try a variety of food and enjoy a hot meal.

P.E kits –Your child will come to school in PE kit on PE days. The school PE kit should include: a blue t-shirt, black jogging bottoms and trainers. No jewellery is to be worn during P.E. lessons. Please ensure your child wears Velcro trainers unless they are able to tie their shoelaces independently. PE lessons will take place on a **Tuesday**.

We are available after school if you wish to discuss any issues or concerns. If you wish to arrange a more focussed appointment, please contact the school office.

Thank you

Miss Calvert and Mrs Nixon