

# Reception Newsletter Summer 2018

## **Welcome back to school!**

As the children were very interested in the bulbs that grew in our garden before the holidays, we are going to have a closer look at growing and changing. We will be growing plants and also following the development of caterpillars and tadpoles. To support this we are also going on a trip to Rivington, where we will try to spot signs of spring. Details of the trip will follow shortly

As usual, other interests will also be followed up as they arise.

### Focus Children

Every child will have one more opportunity to be a focus child before the end of July. Again we ask that they bring something from home that they can talk about. It would be lovely if this could reflect your culture (clothes, ornaments, food etc.) As previously, you will be invited into school to discuss your child's progress following their focus week.

### Maths

During this half term, we will be focusing on subtraction and sharing, including finding halves of objects and amounts. The approach that we use to maths may be different to that which you experienced at school, so I am going to hold a short meeting to explain our methods on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> at 2.30. Please try to attend.

### Stay and Play

Every Friday, from 9.00am you are invited to stay and learn with your child. This term there will be a slightly different approach. The staff will be focussing on different curriculum areas so that you will feel more confident supporting your child at home.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April – reading/phonics

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April – number

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April – writing/spelling

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May – reading/comprehension

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May – shape/space/measure

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May – writing/handwriting

## Helping at home

Reading – When your child brings home a new book, please follow this sequence each day:

- Read the book together and talk about the what is happening
- Read the book again, allowing your child to take the lead
- Let your child read the book to you.

This will allow your child to become more fluent with their reading and, gradually, the number of times they need to blend words will decrease. However, most children will continue to need to blend new words for many months yet.

Writing – encourage your child to draw and write, using felt tips crayons etc. If they are writing, ask them what they want to say and ask what sounds they can hear. Most children are able to write a short sentence if they are encouraged, but will need prompting to do so. They should be encouraged to use a 3 fingered pencil grip. Please ask if you are not sure about this.

Maths –Continue to practise counting forwards to 100 and backwards from 20. Make sure they are not missing any numbers out! We are also learning to count in 2s, 10s and 5s.

The children will be doing addition and subtraction using single digit numbers up to 20. If you would like to help your child with his please ask for some advice from any member of staff.

RE – It would be lovely to see more children at Sunday Mass. At 11.00 Mass there is a children's club which all children are invited to attend while their parents are at Mass.

We will be listening to the story of The Ascension and Pentecost. Ask your child to retell the stories to you.

## General

- Talk to your child about spring and all the changes that occur
- Help your child learn the days of the week and the months of the year
- Encourage your child to have a phone/tablet/computer free day!

Best wishes

Catherine and all Reception Staff

