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| St Mary’s Catholic Primary School,  Reception – Robin Class  Autumn 2016 |

We have had a good start to the new school year. The children are settling in well and are getting used to the various routines of the school day. Our curriculum sheet will give you some information about what your child will be learning at school this term.

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| **Communication and Language**  We will be learning the traditional tales The Magic Porridge Pot and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. We will learn to retell them with actions. We also learn the story Where the Wild Things Are as well as lots of poems (with an autumn theme) and rhymes. Phonics will be taught every day. The children will be taught phonics every day to learn to read and write. | **Mathematics**  We will focus on counting and number recognition, simple addition and subtraction, patterns, as well as ordering, shape and measures. The children will use their growing knowledge in everyday contexts using everyday language. | | **Religious Education and Personal Social and Emotional Development**  We will be exploring the topics of Creation, Prayers Saints and Feasts, Sacraments and Advent. The children will be encouraged to reflect on how what they have learnt affects their lives. In circle time we will be exploring belonging, how we are different, our feelings, what to do if we are feeling a certain way and how we can keep ourselves safe. |
| **Physical Development**  We will have PE on Wednesdays and Thursdays. On Wednesday we wear our PE kit to school and on Thursday we will change at school. We will be learning to move in a variety of ways, jump and land correctly, to push and pull using a variety of body parts and balance. We will also be studying dance after half term. | | **Topics**  We will be learning about ourselves, farm animals and how to look after Pets. We will also learn about Autumn. We will follow the children’s own interests and set up different areas in the class to encourage the children to challenge themselves in their learning. We will have songs and rhyme time every day where we will learn simple songs and rhymes which will help the children to learn musical concepts including pitch and pulse. | |

**Reading**: We are fortunate to have some volunteers who kindly come into school and listen to the children read individually. It is important for children to read as much as possible and it will really benefit your child if you can hear them read as often as possible, even if it is for ten minutes a day. Encourage them to sound out words that they do not know and ask them simple questions after they have read, e.g. What was the main character called? Why did he do that? What was your favourite part of the story? If you were the main character, what would you have done?

Please write that you have heard your child read in your child’s diary.

**Reading Baskets:** There is a basket in school labeled ‘Reading Records’. Before your child puts their book bag in the ‘book bag box’ they will need to put their reading book and reading record in the basket.

**Writing**: Encouraging your child to write at home will make them more enthusiastic about writing. They could write a letter, a story or anything that they want to write. The children are encouraged to bring in to school any writing they have done at home where they will be praised and invited to share it with the rest of the class.

**Phonics and spelling**: Children are taught phonics every day in school where they will learn the sounds that individual and groups of letters make together. It is important to encourage them to listen to the sounds in words that they are trying to spell and write down the sounds that they can hear. They will bring home a bookmark with the sounds they are learning that week. Please encourage your child to practice reading these every day as well as reading the words that the sounds make.

**Mathematics**: Mathematics is fun and is used in all areas of life. You can practice mathematics with your child anywhere: on a walk, in their bedroom, in the car, going shopping etc.

Key targets in mathematics for this term are to:

* Recite numbers in order to 20.
* Count up to 10 (then up to 20) objects accurately.
* Recognise the written numbers 1,2,3,4….. to 9.
* Use words such as more, less, greater, smaller, heavier, lighter to compare things.
* Use words to do with adding and subtracting.
* Find 1 more or less than any number from 1 to 10.
* Add two small groups of objects (total 10 or less).
* Count how many are left when some objects are taken away.
* Make simple patterns and talk about them.
* Name shapes such as a circle, square, triangle, rectangle, cube, cone and sphere.
* Use words such as over, under, above, below, on, in, next tom beside to describe where things are.

**Robin Bear**

Robin is our class bear and he will be coming home with you at least once during the school year to spend the weekend with you and your family.

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| **PE kit**  **Please make sure that your child has named kit, including plimsolls or trainers, in school at all times.**  School tracksuits are available from the school office. | **Home-school contact**  Please make sure you write anything that has happened at home on a note and put into the yellow Reading Record Book so we can either follow it up in school or reply promptly. |

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either of us.

Thank you for your support.

Rachel Burrough