



St Augustine's CE Primary school

Year Reception Newsletter

Autumn 1

Welcome back to the families and children who were with us in Nursery, and a warm welcome to all the new families and children who have joined our Reception class this year! We have so much to look forward to in the upcoming year and we are really excited to get to know the children.

Well done to everyone so far – the children have settled in really well and so quickly and seem to be really enjoying their first few days at school.

Topic

Our topic this term is 'All About Me'. We will be looking at a range of books such as 'The Colour Monster', 'My Body', 'My Five Senses' and 'The Family Book'. We will be learning about our bodies and features, discovering our five senses, learning about different families and exploring the different emotions we feel. We have already started painting portraits of ourselves and they look fantastic!

Communication, Language and Literacy

This half term we will be exploring our topic through language, learning new vocabulary and developing comprehension and questioning skills. We will be working on our mark making skills and practise our name writing. We will also begin phonics lessons – this is where children learn the letters and sounds of alphabet, starting with s/a/t/p/i/n. Once they have learnt enough letters they will begin to put the sounds together (blend the sounds) to read words, such as 's-i-t – sit'.

Maths

In maths this half term we will be covering a range of areas. We will begin by matching, sorting and comparing quantities, talking about measure and pattern and developing an in depth understanding of numbers 1, 2 and 3. We will also be getting the children used to our daily maths meetings where we talk about the days of the week, months of the year, seasons and weather.

RE

The first RE topic of the year is called '*Who made the wonderful world and why?*' We will be learning about what Christians believe about creation, and how each individual is unique and precious. We will also be learning about Harvest.

Physical Education

P.E. lessons will be run by a specialist P.E. provider called 'Let's Leap' - lessons for Reception will not begin until Tuesday 11th November. The children will need to bring their P.E kit to school in a bag and leave it here. An important part of their physical development is learning how to get changed in and out of clothes, so the children will change into their P.E. kit in the classroom before their lesson starts. For their P.E. kit, they will need a white polo shirt, navy round neck jumper, navy shorts or jogging bottoms (no logos) and all black trainers without a coloured trim.

Homework

For this first half term, we ask you to focus on your child's reading as their only homework. After the half term break, the children will receive a homework book. Homework will be given out every Friday and collected in on Wednesday.

Workshops

Throughout the year we will be inviting you to workshops that will be held in school. The workshops will have a different focus, such as phonics and reading or mathematics. It is extremely beneficial for parents to attend these as we cover how children learn and develop particular skills, and what you can do at home to support them. Our first session will be called 'Meet the Teacher', where you will learn a little more about the staff that work with your child, important school information and what a day in Reception looks like. This will take place in the Reception classroom.

Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform to school. This consists a white polo shirt, grey or black trousers, a grey skirt or pinafore dress, white socks, grey or navy blue tights(for girls), grey socks (for boys) a navy jumper and plain black shoes (no logos). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Sorbello-Bali.

Home-school Reading

The children will change their books on Friday, and they will take 3 books home for the whole week. These books are for you to read TO your child, not for them to read on their own. We expect you to read with your child for at least 10 minutes every day and write a comment in their reading record. This could be something as simple as 'Sarah enjoyed the story' or it could be something your child said, such as 'Sarah said the character in the story reminds her of her little sister!'

Once the children have learnt enough letters and sounds, they will begin to take home a 'decodable' book each week. These are books that the children should attempt to read by themselves, by sounding out the letters to read each word. Please encourage your child to read this book a few times throughout the week. Nothing makes a greater impact on their progress than regular reading at home.

Please ensure your child has a book bag that they bring to school every day – this can be purchased from the school office.

Key Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 16 th September (3-3.25pm)	'Meet the Teacher' meeting
Thursday 18 th September (9.15-10.15am)	Parent Workshop EYFS: British Nutrition Foundation Snack-tember
Friday 26 th September (9am)	Macmillan Coffee Morning
October	Black History Month
Friday 10 th October	World Mental Health Day
Friday 17 th October	Individual Photos
Friday 24 th October	First Forest School Trip
27 th October – 7 th November	Half term (please note this is two weeks)

We are really looking forward to what this term holds in store for us. If you would like to discuss any concerns with us please make an appointment with the school office. For more information about the school please visit our website: <https://www.staprimary.org/>

Best wishes,

The Reception team

Mrs Sorbello-Bali, Mrs Uddin, Miss Oasis, Mr Anis and Mr Yusuf