

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Part of St Gabriel the Archangel Multi Academy Trust

HILLCREST ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS, DY2 7PW

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. It has been lovely to have all the children back in Nursery and they have jumped straight back into our routine well. We have had the pleasure in welcoming new starters into Nursery and the children have been very kind and supportive, showing our little newbies what to do.

There are lots of exciting things happening this term which we are all looking forward to. We will be supporting the children to make their transition from Nursery to Reception class, either at St Joseph's or to other schools. We will spend time talking about this change and preparing the children – through direct teaching and also through stories, rhymes, songs, and a more general exploration of growth cycles and change through topics like "growing" and "lifecycles". Also planned for this term is the start of the children's phonics learning in which they will learn their basic sounds in readiness for Reception. We will also begin our PE lessons, which will focus on basic physical development skills (throwing/catching, how to land safely after a jump etc).

A few notices and reminders I would like to share with you:

Your child will need a labelled water bottle in school every day.

Please ensure ALL uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Home learning books are sent home for Nursery children every Friday with a brief description of what has been covered in Nursery that week and suggestions of what can be continued at home. Please read and return these to us Monday morning.

Please don't hesitate to speak to myself or Miss Newey if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to listen and support you and your child. T

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Hughes and Miss Newey

What are we learning about?

This half term our story is the traditional tale The Little Red Hen. The children will be exploring this well-loved tale and using it as inspiration for lots of fun learning activities across all areas of the curriculum.

Special days / Dates:

WB 27th April: Anti-Bullying and Anti-Racism Week begins
20th May: 2.30pm May Procession
25th – 29th May: Half Term
8th June: NSPCC Stay Safe Week begins

Stories like The Little Red Hen help children develop language skills, storytelling abilities, and social understanding through it's repeated narrative language. It's a wonderful way to build speaking and listening skills and their confidence learning through play.

We will be exploring this story by

Role Play: Reading different versions of the story and retelling it using props, puppets, and costumes. We will be exploring the characters and the moral elements to the story.

Creative Activities: We will be creating masks, story props and settings. The children will be encouraged to talk about what they're creating and describe the characters.

We will continue to have a big focus on the 3 prime curriculum areas; Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development.

Maths Fun: We will continue to build and consolidate our basic mathematical skills of counting accurately objects up to 10 and match numerals to the correct quantity. We will also be exploring sequencing and daily routines and patterns, as well as revisiting 2D and 3D shape names and properties.

Personal, Social & Emotional Learning: We will be been thinking about transition and change (moving onto Reception) and work on developing our independence and resilience.

In RE this term we are learning about Easter, Pentecost and Special Celebrations and why they are important.

29th June: BIB Week begins
3rd July: Summer Get Together
9th July: 10.30am Nursery AM Sports Day / 1.30pm Nursery PM Sports Day
10th July: N/R/Y1/Y2 Summer Performance
17th July: End of Year Celebration Assembly

The class charity we have chosen to support

In Nursery we have chosen to support Young At Heart. Young At Heart are a small local registered charity, founded in 1982, offering help and support to families of babies and children diagnosed with heart defects. All of these children and their families have spent many weeks/months in hospital undergoing major heart surgery.

<p><u>Values for Summer Term:</u></p> <p>Grateful and Generous – before half term Grateful: Taking the time to appreciate the blessing from God and being thankful to Him. Generous: Sharing our special talents and gifts with others.</p> <p>Attentive and Discerning- after half term Attentive: Being attentive to the type of person Jesus is calling us to be. Discerning: Thinking carefully about the choices and decisions we make.</p>	<p><u>St Joseph’s Way – See our website for more details</u></p> <p>At St. Joseph’s we develop children’s character through the ‘St. Joseph’s Way’ curriculum. In order to build character, we define the behaviours and habits that we expect students to demonstrate. We want to support our pupils to grow into adults who are polite, respectful, grateful and who put others before themselves. We believe that, as pupils practise these behaviours over time, they become habits that positively shape how they feel about themselves and how other people perceive them. As philosopher Will Durant states, “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.” (1926)</p>
<p><u>Catholic Social Teaching & British Values</u></p> <p>Throughout the curriculum and beyond children learn about the 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching - Working in Solidarity, Care for Creation, Community & Participation, Dignity of Workers, Help for the Poor & Vulnerable, Human Dignity & Solidarity and how they link to British Values – Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Respect & Tolerance.</p>	