



Reception Advent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to our Advent term in Reception. We had a very busy first half term with the children settling in well to their new surroundings and routines. This half term we will be equally as busy learning about our community and the people in it who help us. In addition, it will be our countdown to Christmas with lots of exciting things to do during our last few weeks of term.

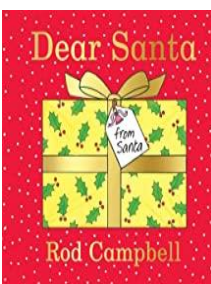
English

This half term as writers, we will be continuing to focus on:

The importance of labelling and writing lists. We will also be focusing on listening to the initial sounds in words and how we say them. There will be modelled writing for the children to practise remembering to use finger spaces.

We will initially be reading "Leaf Man". We are invited to come along on a journey with a man made of leaves in this autumnal classic by Caldecott Honor and illustrated by Lois Ehlert.

Autumn has come, the wind is gusting, and Leaf Man is on the move. Is he drifting east, over the marsh and ducks and geese? Or is he heading west, above the orchards, meadows, and spotted cows? No one's quite sure, but this much is certain: A Leaf Man's got to go where the wind blows. Ehlert crafts each illustration out of actual fall leaves and die-cut pages on every spread that reveal gorgeous landscapes. This playful and whimsical book celebrates the natural world and the rich imaginative life of children. It also includes facts on how to identify leaves out in the wild!



Finally, as we approach the end of term, we will be looking into the Nativity Story and sharing the birthday of Jesus. We will be writing lists to Fr Christmas and designing and writing our own Christmas cards to send out to our loved ones.

Maths

In Maths, this half term, we will be using the Power Maths scheme. As Mathematicians, we will be focusing on:

- Representation of 1,2, and 3. Children will subitise or count to find how many. They match the number names we say to numerals and quantities.
- Comparing: Children begin to understand that as we count, each number is one more than the previous number.
- Composition on 1,2, and 3. Introduce children to the idea that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers.
- Circles and Triangles: Children learn that circles have one curved side and triangles have three straight sides. They will be able to recognise shape in the environment.
- Spatial Awareness: Children begin to hear and use positional language to describe how items are positioned in relation to other items.

R.E

Our focus for RE this half term will be "Birthdays" Advent is a time when we appreciate the love in our lives and prepare to celebrate love becoming a reality in the person of Jesus. Christians at Christmas celebrate the gift of Jesus, given by God as a sign and expression of God's love. Giving and receiving reflects the truth that all life is given by God and life is given meaning through the gift of Jesus. Gifts, given and received during Christmas are a sign and expression of love. Through discussion we will be able to reflect on times in our life when we give of ourselves to others. How does this make us feel?

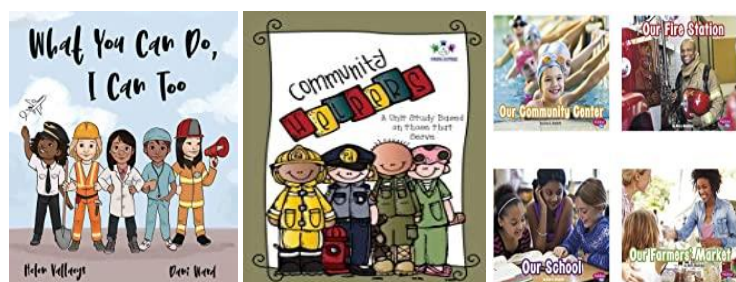
Topic

Our topic this term will focus on our community and the people that help us.

We will look at the area that we live in and the different places within that we can talk about. This will be helped by taking the children on a village walk and identifying the different places that are important to our community, the church, library, train station, shops, etc.

In addition to this we will be looking at the different occupations that people have that help people in our community.

The children will hear from a policeman, a fireman and a paramedic as they describe their role within the community.



Finally, we will be looking at how we, as a family and a community, celebrate Christmas. We will also look at how Christmas is celebrated in different countries and cultures.

Literacy ELG Focus: UTW

Continue developing positive attitudes about the differences between people. Ensure that resources reflect the diversity of life in modern Britain. Encourage children to talk about the differences they notice between people, while also drawing their attention to similarities between different families and communities.

P.E

P.E will continue to be on Tuesdays.

Phonics

At St Charles School we use the Read Write Inc phonics scheme. Before your child can start to read, s/he needs to learn to:

- Say the sound that is represented by each letter or groups of letters. These are called 'Speed sounds'.
- How to blend the sounds together in a word to read it e.g. c-a-t - cat. This is called 'sound-blending'. In Read Write Inc phonics the individual sounds are called 'speed sounds' - because we want your child to read them effortlessly. In Reception your Child will initially learn Set 1 speed sounds by sight. They will also learn how to blend them together to read words e.g., c-a-t - cat.

RWI set 1 phonemes (letter sounds);

m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e, l, h, sh, r, j, v, y, w, th, z, ch, qu, x, nk

Our school website provides information on how you can help support your son's / daughter's phonics development at home.

How can you help?

- Reading is a vital part of a child's education. In school your child is benchmarked and given a book accordingly. As your child becomes increasingly confident in their phonic knowledge, they will be given a reading book that reflects their phonetic ability.
- Open communication is very important to me. If you have any worries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at school either by phone, e-mail or verbally at drop-off/pick-up times. Equally if you would like to share good news and achievements concerning your child, I would love to hear about them too!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Parkinson