



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Reception Advent 2 Newsletter

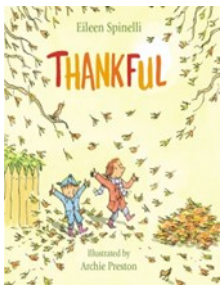
Welcome back to our Advent term in Reception. We had a very busy first half term with the children settling in well to their new surroundings and routines. This half term we will be equally as busy learning about different celebrations that happen in our communities and around the world. In addition, it will be our countdown to Christmas with lots of exciting things to do during our last few weeks of term. It is such a magical time!!

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 looking at different celebrations of light. We return to school the week of bonfire night. The children will be reading different stories about bonfire night, writing captions about what they see, feel and hear during bonfire night. The children will draw their own bonfire pictures using different media. We will then read all about the celebration of Diwali, the festival of light and make own Diwali lamps.



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 our Christmas lists to Father 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.

RE

This term's branch of learning is called 'Prophecy and Promise'. We will hear about the 'Annunciation' and the important message that the Angel Gabriel brought to Mary. We will learn about the journey to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus. We will consider how we prepare for this during Advent.

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.

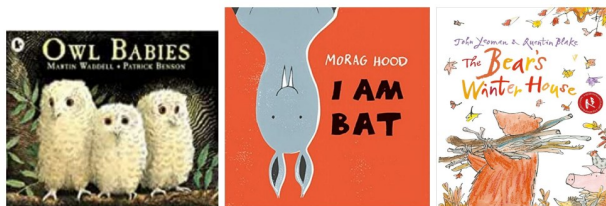
RWI set 1 phonemes (letter sounds):

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, ng, nk

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

Topic

Our topic this term will focus on different celebrations around the world. We will discover what it means to us to celebrate different occasions and how it makes us feel, who we like to celebrate with and why we celebrate. In addition to we will be learning about what happens to animals during the wintertime. Where do animals find food in the winter and which animals hibernate and why.



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. Please continue to bring your children to school with their P.E kit on with their school hoodie.

How can you help?

- Reading is a vital part of a child's education. In school your child is bench marked 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.

This is such an exciting and magical time of year. We look forward to sharing it with you and your children. Thank you for your continuing support.

**Mrs Brassington
and Mrs Cheers**