Early Years Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2020



The Early Years team are...

Class Teacher:
Miss Hing

Additional staff:
Mrs Abbott
Mr Cook
Mrs Herridge

Sports Coach:
Mr Deverall

Key Dates To Remember This Term

INSET day	**2nd Sept**
First Day of Term—Reception	**Wednesday 3rd Sept**
First Day of Term—Nursery	**Monday 7th Sept**
Last Day of Term	**22nd Oct**
INSET day	**23rd Oct**

Stars of the Week

Each Friday afternoon we celebrate our FSU stars of the week. Children can be chosen for star of the week by any member of staff for doing something that has shone out that week. It could be an action like overcoming a fear, trying something new or being resourceful with equipment. It could be for kindness, politeness and good manners towards others. It could be for excelling in their learning, putting effort into their work or producing amazing learning in school or at home.
A certificate will be given and will explain the reason, as unfortunately we cannot hold Collective Worship in the usual way.

September 2020

A Warm Welcome

Welcome to the new school year! We hope the children are as excited as we are about the year of learning ahead. We can't wait to get started and get to know the new children. All children are different and some will settle in more quickly than others. If you do have any concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to speak to any member of staff. We are here to listen and to help in any way to ensure that your child's transition to school is a smooth as possible.

Settling in...

These first few weeks in school are spent helping the children understand routines and expectations of being in our Early Years Foundation Stage. It helps us if you encourage your child to understand the importance of listening carefully to adults and how to share and take turns.

The children are already doing so well in learning the expectations of their new class and how to play and learn well together.

A few things to note...

Due to the current situation, please ensure that only essential items are brought into school, such as lunch boxes, waterproof coats and water bottles. Please can you use plastic bags to transport items rather than rucksacks.

We use wellington boots as our outdoor footwear for wet weather. Please provide a pair of named wellington boots and keep these on the boot rack by the classroom door.

We are thrilled to be able to provide an engaging outdoor learning environment. We ask that you help us to look after the area by not allowing your children to play before or after school on the equipment.

Thank you.

PE Day

PE for Reception is on a Tuesday afternoon with our sports coach Mr Deverall. Nursery have PE with Mr Cook and Mrs Abbott on Friday
Please can the children arrive to school in full PE kit on their PE days which should include a jacket or jumper for the colder weather.

Important Notices

Tapestry

Look out for an email from Tapestry in the coming weeks. Tapestry is our online learning journal. I have been busy setting up the children's portfolios and parent access. You will receive an email asking you to set up a user account and password. Please follow the link and instructions within the email. Should you encounter any difficulties setting your account up, you will find an easy to follow user guide on our FSU website page. If you have not received the email please check with a member of FSU staff that the email address we have for you is correct.

End of Day Routines

Please be patient in the early weeks of this year as we become more familiar with who will be collecting your child. The children are told they must not exit the classroom door unless a teacher has called their name. Please inform us or email parents@holyportprimaryschool if there is a change to the usual routine of who picks up your child. If the change of routine is urgent please call the school office.

Further Communication

Keep an eye on our Communication board for messages affecting reception and nursery. We update our website weekly and the school office will email you newsletters, letters and other communications.

Name Belongings

Please name all of your child's belongings. Sadly, we have had a number of lost property items already and sadly, we cannot return them to their owners.

Any queries please find a member of staff. We look forward to an exciting and fun packed term!

Here is an overview of what we will cover in the curriculum this term.

Our focus this term is settling in and getting to know the children, their skills and their interests. Later this term we will introduce our first topic 'Harvest'. In this topic we will explore seasonal changes that happen in the Autumn and the work of the farmers to gather their crops. We will create autumn inspired art work, go on nature walks and collect fallen treasures.

Literacy



This the children will listen to a selection of fiction and non fiction books, including some of their favourite tales. Reception children will be introduced to phonics. They will learn the first set of letter sounds and the jolly phonics rhymes to match. While nursery children will practice developing their skills of listening and identifying sounds, and exploring rhymes.

Mathematics



In math's we will be working with the children to find out what they already know! We will be counting, matching and recognising numbers to ten, and some may go beyond.
The children will learn number songs and rhymes to sing in school and at home.

Expressive Arts and Design



The children will begin to explore a variety of construction materials and begin to use tools for a purpose. We will explore how different media can be combined to create new effects and how colours can be mixed to make new colours. In our colour topic we will explore and recreate some art in the style of artists Mondrian and Kandinsky. We will paint with a variety of media including our hands!

Physical Development



In PE children will be developing their fundamental movement skills through games and activities delivered by our sports coach Mr Deverall. The children will begin to use one handed tools and equipment in class activities. They will begin to write using a variety of media and form letters and some will write their name.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



During the first term the children will become familiar with our school rules and routines. We work together to make a class charter and create a display for it in our classroom. The children are supported to develop friendships and form positive relationships with the adults.

Religious Education



This term we ask "Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?"

We will learn about the creation story and how we can care for our wonderful world.

Understanding the World



We will be identifying and experiencing seasonal changes in the world around us. The children will be encouraged to share their ideas and experiences reflecting on past and present events in their own lives. Outdoor play is an essential part of the Foundation day. Please remember that in order for your child to take part in all activities safely they should wear sensible school shoes .

Technology



Children will learn how to used applications to on iPads to play phonics games.

Home Learning

In Reception children are expected to read at home. Very shortly we will be sending home reading scheme books for the children to become familiar with. These will progress to reading books as the child learns to apply their phonics knowledge to blending words to read.

After half term the children will receive their first home learning grid.

A table of home learning activities linked to all the areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.