



Welcome to a brand-new school year and the beginning of your child's learning journey in Reception. For those families that are new, welcome to our St Saviour's family! The children are settling in wonderfully, they are happy and smiley coming into school and are eager to engage in all aspects of learning throughout the day. They are beginning to become familiar with the routines of the day and are already starting to show independence with these, such as hanging up their own coats on their pegs, putting water bottles in the right place, lining up and carrying their own dinner tray and being respectful when playing in the classroom by helping to tidy up after playing.

What are we learning in Autumn 1?

LITERACY

This half term in Literacy, we will be looking at poems, stories and rhymes with familiar settings and predictable and repetitive patterns. Our first focus text is, '*A Great Big Cuddle, Poems For The Very Young*' by Micheal Rosen and Chris Riddell. We are trying to build up a bank of poems and rhymes that the children learn by heart. We hope that you will support us in this by singing, chanting or saying the poem at home on a daily basis so that they can develop a repertoire that will reinforce the link between rhyme, reading and spelling. The children will bring home a new poem each Monday. Please do recite it with your child at home or let them 'teach' you! This really does help the children's language development.

Our second focus text for the term will be, '*Goldilocks and The Three Bears*'. We will learn this story with actions and develop story maps. Once the children are familiar with the text, they will begin to explore the characters thinking carefully about how they feel and why they might feel that way. They will be encouraged to think of words to describe the characters and co-construct character descriptions.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

We will explore different types of movement in our outdoor area- running, jumping, hopping, skipping and balancing. We will explore lots of fine motor activities and experiences such as dough disco to develop strength in our fingers to support writing.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We will learn to manage our own needs e.g. going to the toilet, washing hands, putting coats on. We will begin to build new relationships with the children and adults in the class. We will become familiar with the class and school rules.

MATHS

The first few weeks of the term will focus on getting to know the children and settling them in and introducing the routines of the Reception day; key times of the day, class routines and establishing where things belong. There will be lots of mathematical discussions and opportunities to use positional language as children explore the continuous provision inside and out. Mid-term, the children will be matching, comparing and sorting sets. We will learn numbers 1- 3 with a mastery approach. We will identify and make simple patterns. We will explore measurement through size, mass and capacity.

EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN

We will be exploring a variety of materials, tools and techniques and experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. We will also draw self-portraits, looking carefully at how we are similar or different to our friends in class and including these details in our drawings.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Our topic this half term is, *All About Me*. We will talk about our families- parents, brothers/sisters/aunts/ uncles/cousins/ grandparents. We will ask questions to others in the class to find out about their families- how are they the same/different to our own? The children will embark on a project to create an 'All About Me' box. Please refer to separate information sheet about this project.

We will also be exploring the seasonal changes that occur when summer transitions into autumn.

Other information: Home Reading - At the moment children will bring home a 'sharing book' This book is for you to read to your child and for them to listen and join in with. After listening a couple of times, they may then feel confident in retelling parts by themselves. The children will also be allocated phonically decodable reading soon! Keep reading! Thank you.