



Welcome to Holy Cross Foundation Stage One Curriculum Newsletter

Pentecost Term in Foundation Stage One

We hope you have had a peaceful Easter break together.
Welcome back to term three, we are pleased to welcome Avery to our class this term!
Here is an overview of the children's learning over this term.
If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to send me a message via Class Dojo, or telephone the office and leave a message if it is urgent.



Thank you for your support.

Please click anything underlined -
this will take you to linked websites for further information or support.

Come and See Good News

We will be finding out more about [Holy Cross church](#) this term and I am hoping we can arrange for the children to visit the church. In class, we will build on our prior learning about the ways in which we grow and that Lent is a time to grow more like Jesus. We will be learning to understand that everyone has Good News to share. That Pentecost is the celebration of the Good News of Jesus.

Friends

During this topic, we will learn about how we can make friends and that Jesus had good friends. We will also find out what Jesus tells us about friendship.

Understanding of the World

We will be encouraging the children to use simple language about the passage of time. To comment on photographs and images and talk about similarities and differences in simple terms. At this stage of their development, the children should recognise simple features like trees, rivers, beaches and also places that might be significant to people like churches and temples. The children will also be learning to understand they can influence their environment and make changes to the space around them.

Past and Present: Knights and Castles

We will delve into medieval times and compare them to the present day. The children will participate in celebrations for King Charles III's forthcoming coronation.



People and Communities and Cultures: We will find out about St George, Eid, Earth Day, and the coronation.



The natural world: Plants and Animals

We will be exploring plants, animals and patterns and finding out how to grow and care for plants. We will find out about the life cycle of a butterfly and hopefully, we will watch this process first-hand.

Literacy

Phonics

The children will be developing an understanding of alliteration. We will be exploring the sounds our voices make, distinguishing between the differences in vocal sounds, this will include oral blending and segmenting.

Mark making

The children will continue to take part in fine and gross motor skills activities so that they can gain further control when writing/drawing. This term will be focusing on supporting the children to recognise their own names and perhaps attempt to write the initial sound of their name or full name if they are ready for this stage.

Reading

The children will bring two books home each week.

[Click me](#) for more information.

Library Visit

Hopefully, we will plan a visit to our local library this term.

[Click me](#) for a list of books you may want to take out at the library

How to support your child at home:

Independence: ensure your child is starting to dress and undress by themselves, put on their own coat and shoes. Tidy up after themselves - the children are expected to tidy, sweep and take care of our environment at school - encourage this at home.

Communication and Language:

[click me](#) to find out more.

Develop a love of reading:

Stories before bedtime, sharing your child's reading books on a regular basis - embed this into your daily routines.



[Oxford Owl](#)



Mathematics

- Noticing - becoming aware of the maths around them.
- Commenting on features and shapes.
- Naming and matching items.
- Sorting objects.
- Comparing amounts
- Comparing sizes.
- Recognising numbers.
- Repeating patterns.



Physical Development

- Continue to develop their movement, balancing, riding (scooters and bikes) and ball skills.
- Using a pencil and other tools effectively.
- Considering ways to keep healthy and safe, eat healthy foods and look after our bodies.
- Developing how to manage basic hygiene and personal care needs for themselves, including dressing and going to the toilet.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Being a good friend.
- Turn taking and sharing.
- Using our manners.
- Being good at tidying up and looking after our environment.
- How to stay safe and healthy.



Communication and Language

- Listening and responding to ideas expressed by others in conversation or discussion.
- Listening attentively to stories, anticipating key events and commenting on what they have heard.
- Maintaining attention, concentration and sitting quietly during small group carpet time.
- Developing narrative and vocabulary through play.

Expressive Art and Design

- How to use paintbrushes, pencils, pens and modelling materials effectively.
- Using various materials to make, draw and paint.

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

The children will have continuous access to daily fine motor activities and they will also take part in dough disco.

- Mixing colours.
- Rhythm in music and dance.
- Singing - nursery rhymes
- Role-play during free play.



Gross Motor Skills

Children will develop their gross motor skills through outdoor play; running, climbing, balancing, crawling etc. They will develop their ability to move safely too, developing core muscle strength, stability, coordination and balance. We will have weekly yoga activities and will be focusing on moving in different ways, crawling, climbing, jumping, rolling etc.

Other Useful Information

Weather, Clothing and Outdoor Learning

A large part of our learning happens outdoors, ensure that your child has a coat **every day**. **Even if the sun is shining!** Check your child's clothing and write over any fading names.

Summer - is on its way (I hope!) Sun hats to be in school every day. Sunscreen to be applied before school - if your child attends full-time you might want to buy a 24-hour sunscreen to ensure that your child is protected throughout the day.



Book Bags

We recommend that your child has a named Holy Cross book bag. These types of bags protect the books inside and save the need for a larger bulky bag.

Please do not put drinks or toys in their book bag.

We also recommend **one** keyring, to easily identify your child's bag.

Change of Clothing

Please let me know if you would like your child's spare clothes bag to be sent home so that you can check the clothing still fits.



Buy some printed name labels to stick onto clothing - use the **family surname**, and then you can use them for all of your children's clothing, footwear, coats, hats, water bottles etc.

Dates for your diary...

*This list is not conclusive - please continue to check the [school website](#), Class Dojo and read school text messages.

April

21st [Eid and Earth Day](#) - activities in school
28th [Parents and Friends Cake Sale \(PM\)](#)

May

1st [School closed - Bank Holiday](#)
5th [King Charles III Coronation celebration in school - details to follow](#)
8th [School Closed - Bank Holiday](#)
18th [Ascension Day](#)
26th [Last day of this half-term](#)
27th [May - 4th June School Closed](#)

June

5th [School Open](#)



Homework

- ✓ Read at least 4 times a week
 - ✓ [Numbots](#)
- ✓ Singing - please sing nursery rhymes with your child - [Click me](#)
- ✓ Class Dojo - I might sometimes post additional activities for the children to do here.
- ✓ Please see our Class page for more click ['useful links'](#)

Finally

Your child's happiness is our number one priority - if you have any questions regarding your child's development, learning, well-being, or concerns or worries, please do not hesitate to ask. You can message me via Class Dojo, I am happy to call you or meet with you. Also, if you experience any changes to your personal circumstances, that may impact your child's well-being, please let us. We will do whatever we can to help.

Class Teacher: Mrs. Khalil