



Holy Cross Foundation Stage One (Nursery)

Curriculum Newsletter and Useful Information



Lent - Term 2

We hope you have had a peaceful Christmas - Happy New Year to you all!
Welcome back to term two.

We are pleased to welcome nine new children to our nursery this term!
Delilah, Oliver, Angelica, Psalm, Reyah, Deanna, Robin, Elsie and Elvi.

Here is an overview of the children's learning over this next term.

Thank you for being so supportive, please spare some time to read through this Newsletter carefully and click the links for further information.

I will also be sharing information via Class Dojo.

Religious Education – Branch Three Galilee to Jerusalem

Here are our learning intentions - to be covered over 6 weeks:

I know the Wise Men visited Jesus

I know the Wise Men gave Jesus gifts.

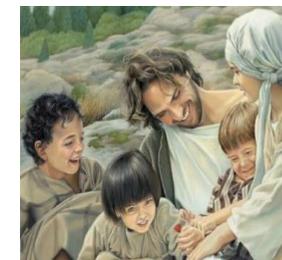
I know that Jesus welcomes everyone.

I know that Jesus takes care of everyone.

I know that Jesus wants us to care for other people.

Jesus teaches us that we should share what we have with others.

Holy Cross Class Prayers - [click me](#)



Literacy

In phonics, we will perform songs with actions, identify body sounds, use our voices

How can you help?

- ✓ Support your child by reading lots of stories with them.

Mathematics

- Noticing - Making them aware of the maths around them.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

- Being a good friend.
- Turn taking and sharing.
- Using our manners.

to make sounds and move our bodies in response to an instrument. The children will continue to participate in activities that will develop their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

They will bring two books home each week, one a library book for you to share and the other a school reading book. [Click me](#) for more information.

We ask that you share them with your children and return them weekly in their book bags so we can change them. You will be given more information to support you, this can be found inside your child's reading diary. [Click me](#) and [me](#) for online copy.

We will be reading a variety of fact and fiction books this half-term. Some will be linked to our topics, others will be children's choices.



Please visit your local library.

More information can be found here [click me](#).

- ✓ Read the guidance sent home to support you with sharing stories with your child.
- ✓ Help your child to recognise their written name. [click me for ideas](#).
- ✓ Encouraging your child to notice colours, patterns, shapes, features and things that match.
- ✓ Talking about amounts, sizes and comparing.
- ✓ Use simple language, and question your child to see if they have understood.
- ✓ Support your child to become independent - putting on their own coat, getting dressed, using the toilet, tidying toys away etc.



A great website with lots of useful information regarding your child's learning, and development and how you can support them further.



[Oxford Owl](#)

- Commenting on features, patterns and shapes within their environment.
- Naming and matching items.
- Sorting objects, into chosen groups and groups of the children's choosing.
- 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 mark making 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.



Hang Up Stuff

- Being good at tidying up and looking after our environment.
- How to stay safe and healthy.
- Understanding our emotions and how to cope in different situations.



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 Arts and Design

- How to use paintbrushes, pencils, pens and modelling materials effectively.
- Using various materials to make, draw and paint.
- Mixing colours.
- Rhythm in music and dance.
- Singing - nursery rhymes
- Role-play during continuous provision play.



Fine Motor Skills

The children will have continuous access to daily fine motor activities and they will also take part in dough disco, Squiggle whilst you Wiggle and Funky Fingers activities.

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 ball skills this half-term.

Understanding of the World

Understanding of the World is about how children get to know about other people, the place where they live and about all aspects of the environment.

Understanding the World is broken down into three aspects:

- People and Communities
 - The World
 - Technology

More information can be found here [click me](#)

UW - Our Topics - Birds - including bird watching.

Weekly topics

Fire service past and present
Ambulance service past and present.
Police service past and present.
Emergency vehicles now and then (mixture)
Chinese New Year and Children's rights

Other Useful Information

[Complete Guide to the Early Years Foundation Stage \(EYFS\)](#)

[Development Matters - Three and Four-Year-Olds - a guide to child development](#)

Bringing your child to school

Gates open at 8.35 am and close at 8.45 am

****Nursery parents/carers will be permitted to exit via the main entrance should it take longer to settle your child.**

IMPORTANT

You need to bring your child **directly** into the nursery and **support** them in hanging their coat and putting water bottles, lunch boxes and book bags away. Then **direct** them to the activities that are out for the children to do. Please ensure you have said goodbye properly!

Please encourage your child to put their own coat and other personal items away each morning, to support their

independence.

We also recommend **one** keyring, for your child to easily identify their bag.

Change of Clothing

Please send a bag with a set of cleaning clothing, (this does not need to be school uniform) this will **remain in school** - in case we need to change your child's clothing. Make sure your child's name is on their bag.

Lunch Time

School meals must be booked in advance, new starters please email the office with your child's preferences for next week.

Packed lunches, we are a nut free school, please chop grapes, and any other food that might be a choking risk. We do not heat up food so please provide food that is eaten cold. Provide items such as sandwiches, wraps or pasta, fruit, yoghurts and water for example.

Home Time

Morning nursery sessions end at 11.45 am. Please collect your child via the main office entrance.

At the end of the day the gates will open **just after 3.20 pm** - please collect nursery children first, KS1 will open their doors at 3.25 pm, and KS2 at 3.30 pm.

Please do not be late, if there are unforeseen circumstances you must notify the office as soon as you are aware that you may be delayed.

Emergency Contact Numbers

If you change your contact number please inform the office ASAP. If grandparents, friends or relatives are collecting your children on a regular basis we must also have their contact details. Please ensure you check your phone throughout the day, on a regular basis. We will phone you in an emergency. We will leave a voice message if possible, and send a class dojo message. In case of an emergency, we must be able to contact you or a relative throughout the day.



Nursery Uniform

Navy unbranded tracksuit bottoms - **not** school trousers

Price and Buckland do not sell jogging bottoms, but they are available at outlets such as; [TU](#), [Matalan](#), [Asda](#) and [Next](#).

Blue/white unbranded polo t-shirt

Navy Jumpers/cardigans

Navy/Black or White unbranded trainers - with Velcro fasteners



You are welcome to purchase school-branded items - but this is not compulsory.

Cold Weather, Clothing and Outdoor Learning

A large part of our curriculum is conducted outdoors, your child needs a **coat every day**, which is ideally warm and waterproof.

Please make sure that all coats, gloves, scarves and hats have your **child's name on them**. Check your child's jumper and write over any fading names. We do go out all weather and want your children to be able to learn and explore the outdoors as much as possible. If they wear welly boots to Nursery they will also require their school shoes this day for indoor play. You are welcome to send a pair of Wellington boots into school so that the children can change into these should they need to. Please ensure they are clearly named and in a separate bag, they can remain at school.



Book Bags

We recommend that your child has a named Holy Cross book bag. [Price and Buckland](#) link.

If each child has a book bag, we can ensure that they go home with their library books, artwork and any letters.

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



Buy some printed name labels to stick onto clothing - use the family surname, and then you can use them for all of your children.



Dates for your diary...

January

8th - Return to school

February

6th - safer Internet Day

7th - Children's Rights Day

8th - Our Lady of Lourdes
Feast Day

9th - SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET
DAY

12th - 16th Half-term - school
is closed.

19th - Back to school

20th / 21st - Termly Learning
Meetings (Parents' meeting
times and dates to be
confirmed)

21st - Global Dance Workshop

23rd - CAFOD Lent Family
Fast Day

26th - Fairtrade Fortnight

March

7th - World Book Day

22nd - Spring Fair

28th - Last day of Term 2

29th - Good Friday - school
closed for Easter Holiday

Return to school on
April 15th 2024

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

What to do at home:

- ✓ Read with your child at least 4 times a week
 - ✓ [Numbots](#)
- ✓ Singing - please sing nursery rhymes with your child - [Click me](#)
- ✓ Please see our Class page for more click ['useful links'](#)
- ✓ Play with your child, ask questions, encourage curiosity.
- ✓ Support independence



Finally,

Thank you for reading this Newsletter - please find the time to click on all the links - this document is full of information, ideas and advice that will support you and therefore support your child.

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.

If you experience any changes to your circumstances, such as moving house, separation, new babies, death of a loved one or pet, employment changes, child care changes, or anything that may impact your child please let me know. We will do whatever we can to help and ensure you and your child are given the correct support if needed.

Thank you!

Ms. Pitman and the EYFS team.

