



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 three new children to our nursery this term.

Myles, Rowan and Millie-Grace.

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

Thank you for your continued support, please spare some time to read through this Newsletter carefully and click the links for further information.

I will also share 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 to make sounds and move our bodies in response to an

How can you help?

- ✓ Support your child by reading lots of stories with them.
- Read the guidance sent

Mathematics

- Noticing - Making them aware of the maths around them.
- Commenting on features, patterns and shapes within

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

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

instrument. The children will continue to participate in activities that will develop their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

Reading: All the children have a book bag containing two library books, the library book box is placed under the shelter for you to swap your child's books over as often as you wish.

We ask that you aim to swap the books at least once a week and read with your child daily. This can be done by reading stories to your child, reading labels out loud, reading instructions for games etc.

[Click me](#) and [me](#) for tips and advice.

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](#).

home to support you with sharing stories with your child. [Click me](#) and [me](#) for tips and advice.

- ✓ 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 in their environment.
- ✓ Talking about amounts, sizes and comparing.
- ✓ When speaking with your child 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](#)



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 learning how to cope in different or difficult 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 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 use the school hall for movement activities.

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 - History of Toys.

Weekly topics

Happy New Year – settling back into routines.

Our world – freezing and melting.

Toys now and then.

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 Nursery

Doors will be opened at 8.45am. Collection times are 11.45am and 3.20pm.

School Gates

Open at 8.40 am and close at 8.50 am

Open at 3.20pm and close at 3.35pm

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

IMPORTANT

You **MUST** bring your child **directly** into the nursery and **support and encourage** them in hanging their own coat and put water bottles, lunch boxes in the correct place. Afterwards, **support** your child in finding their name card and joining the carpet activity.

Please ensure you have said goodbye properly!

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 for life. Plastic bags/ bags for life only please.

Lunch Time

School meals must be booked in advance, at least the day before. New starters please email the office with your child's preferences for the first week.

Packed lunches, we are a nut free school, please chop grapes in half, 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 cheese for example. School meals are served with a beaker of water and children who have a packed lunch take their water bottles. The children do not need extra drinks in their lunch boxes.

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 at **3.20 pm** - please collect nursery children first, Reception class, KS1 and KS2 will open their doors at 3.25 pm. The school gates are closed at 3.35pm

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 be informed about this and 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.

Price and Buckland [click me](#)

(The PE bag would be ideal for spare clothes and the book bags should last several years.)

Cold Weather, Clothing and Outdoor Learning

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 plastic bag or bag for life, they can remain at school.



Book Bags

We recommend that your child has a named Holy Cross book bag.

[Price and Buckland](#) link.

Book bags are ideal for your child's library books and they will use this in reception class and beyond.

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

Helpful
Tip

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

[Click me](#)



Dates for your diary...

[January](#)

6th - Return to school

24th - Launch of the Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'

[February](#)

10th - safer Internet Day

11th - Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day

12th - Children's Rights Day

14th - SCHOOL and NURSERY CLOSED - INSET DAY

14th - 23rd Half-term- closed.

24th - Back to school

[March](#)

3rd - Fairtrade Fortnight

5th - Ash wednesday

6th - World Book Day

14th - CAFOD Lent Family Feast Day

17th St Patricks' Day

[April](#)

4th - Last day of Term 2

18th - Good Friday

20th - Easter Sunday

Return to school on **Tuesday**

22nd April

*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, speak to your child and 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 speak to me. 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, medical issues, new babies, death of a loved one or pet, employment changes, child care changes, or anything that may impact you or 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.

