

We would like to wish all our families a warm welcome to Grace Mary! We hope you all had a fantastic summer. This newsletter is designed to give you details about your child's learning this term as well as other important information you need to be aware of.

As always, please do not hesitate to speak to us with any questions or comments you may have.

Thank you, Mrs Cains, Miss Saunders and Mrs Sheares

## What will my child be learning?

### Communication and language

Sing a wide range of familiar nursery rhymes accurately.  
 Use longer sentences of at least 4-6 words.  
 Use sentences with some joined up words such as 'because' and 'and'.  
 Talk about familiar stories and retell them.  
 Listen to longer stories and demonstrate understanding of what has happened when questioned afterwards.  
 Engage in short, small group activities, paying attention to what adults and other children are saying.

### Personal, Social and Emotional

Select and use activities and resources to achieve a goal they have chosen or one which is suggested to them. Demonstrate a sense of responsibility and membership of the school community. Show confidence in new social situations. Follow class rules and demonstrate an understanding of why they are important. Talk about how they are feeling and why. Show an awareness of the feelings of others and the impact of their own actions on others feelings. Solve some minor conflicts independently. Play with one or in a small group of children, extending and elaborating play ideas.

### Physical

Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils (see pencil grip progression.)  
 Show a preference for a dominant hand.  
 Ride a scooter, demonstrating an ability to stop and start.  
 Pedal a balance bike and maintain control for a few moments.  
 Cross a balancing beam independently.  
 Throw ball underhand and overhand.  
 Use alternative feet to climb steps and apparatus.

### Maths

When comparing objects, children will start with a visual comparison. They will progress on to determining the quantity of objects in each set and comparing this way in the next section.

Chant/sing number-based rhymes and songs, as well as count forwards and backwards, to build a sense of sequences and synchronicity.

While counting, children can point to concrete or pictorial resources to help them to make links.

Children should be able to work with the numbers in the following ways:

- Subitising
- Comparing
- Ordering
- Understanding linear representations
- 1 more, 1 less
- Writing numerals

### Literacy

Listening and participating during whole class book Sessions.

Commenting on stories.

Joining in with repeated refrains.

Sequencing stories.

To read RWI set 1 sound accurately

— 26 phonemes that represent the letters of the alphabet and 5 diagraphs.

-To begin to read simple words and sentences using their developing phonic knowledge.

-To confidently sequence key events in a story using the words beginning, middle and end.

-To begin to retell familiar stories.

### Understanding the World

#### Geography

Investigating the forest environment and how it differs from others we are familiar with.

#### History

My past, present, future.

Families - parents, grandparents and beyond.

#### Science

Investigating Owls and other forest animals.

### Expressive Arts

#### Art and Design

Colour: naming, recognising and using primary colours to mix paints  
 Painting: self portraits  
 (Van Gogh and Picasso)

#### Music

Rhythm and pulse

Learning to join in with familiar nursery rhymes and simple songs.

### Important Notice

#### Phonics and Maths Workshops

Wk bgn 7<sup>th</sup> September children will be beginning their phonics journey. We are following the Read Write Inc. Scheme and will be learning a new phoneme each day.

On **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 8:45** we would love to invite parents in for a meeting to discuss our early reading. More information about this session will be sent out soon.

On **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 8:45** we would love to invite parents in for a meeting to discuss the way we teach maths.

#### Me and my family

As part of our learning, we will be talking about our families and the people who are special to us. Please could you send in a photograph of your child with their family. Please send these photos via Class Dojo. We will use these photographs to encourage discussion, develop language skills and help the children learn more about each other.

### Important Notice

- Could we please ask that all grapes are cut up if they are brought in to school for snack.
- Please could all the children's uniform be clearly labelled. You may want to bring in spare clothes and wellies for your child, could these be in a clearly labelled bag. These can be kept in their lockers.

## THANK YOU



We have had a wonderful week getting to know all your amazing children. We have been so impressed with how they have settled in this week, and we are looking forward to a wonderful year. Thank you for continued support and please don't hesitate to speak to us with any questions.



#### ClassDojo

We are excited to use using ClassDojo this year as a way to recognise and celebrate the positive choices our children make. At our school, we place a strong emphasis on our core values, and ClassDojo will allow us to acknowledge children who consistently demonstrate these values in their learning and behaviour.

When your child earns a Value Token, this will be recorded on ClassDojo. This means you will be able to see when your child has been recognised and celebrate their achievements together at home. We encourage you to ask your child about the tokens they have earned and talk with them about how they are showing our values both in and out of school.

