

St Robert Bellarmine Reception

Newsletter – Spring - 2025

Literacy

This half term the children will be listening to the story of 'Stick Man' and we will also be looking at the weather. We will be exploring ice; what it is, what is needed to make it melt and that it is a reversible change. We will be finding out what waterproof and not-waterproof means, writing reports on the weather and making our own weather forecasts. We will also be discussing the terms natural and human-made.

We will be encouraging the children to write more independently by listening for the sounds they need to write. We will also continue to concentrate on letter formation and finger spaces and for those children who are ready we will be asking them to use a capital letter at the start of their sentence and a full stop at the end. Keep an eye on the website for photographs of what the children are doing. We will also be celebrating Lunar New Year with the children. Next half term we will be looking at growing – plants, animals and humans and finally about Easter.

This term we will also be having a huge push on reading. It is the time of year when reading every day is absolutely crucial to you child developing their fluency.

Please use the phonics books that are sent home to develop fluency. The children will already have read these books three times in class and we are expecting them to be able to read them efficiently – not struggle, so they are developing confidence. During our reading sessions in class we will have worked on sounding out, meaning of

words, understanding of the story etc, at home we want the children to show off their reading. Please write in the reading record books each time you listen to your child read their phonics book.

Mathematics

The children will continue working on recognising numerals to 10 and counting out accurately. They will continue to count forwards from any number within 10 and we will continue to work on counting backwards from any number within 10. The children will continue to know about and discuss numbers around them. Please when counting with the children, ensure that the children say 'teen' for all the teen numbers as often they will say thirty for thirteen and forty for fourteen.

They will also be introduced to the 'add' 'equals' and 'takeaway' signs and we will be teaching the actions for these words as well as the meaning. Equals – equal value, might look different; add – joining groups together and takeaway – taking a smaller number away from a bigger number.

(Make sure you ask the children to tell and show you what they are.)

The children will be learning to add and takeaway using a variety of resources; Numicon, takeaway covers, the 10 frames, a trio of numbers and they will be looking at how to make and then write their own addition and takeaway number sentence. We will continue to subitise with the children to 6. This is where they recognise the amount without having to count and just by looking. The children will be learning about size, weight, capacity and time throughout the term as well. For time we will be talking

about days of the week, morning and afternoon etc rather than o'clock and half past.

Snack Money

The cost of snack is either £1.00 per week or £6.00 for the first half term and £6.00 for the second half term. **Please pay either £1.00 on a Monday or pay for the half term in one payment.**

I hear and I forget, I see and I remember. I do and I understand.

Chinese Proverb

Book Bags

Please ensure that they come into school each day.

Reading graduate books

We hope you and your child are enjoying the opportunity to share a high quality text each week. These shared reading sessions are so beneficial to the children; they begin to respond to the story, predict what is going to happen, learn the meaning of new vocabulary and hear language and phrases they can begin to use in their own independent writing.

Labels

Please make sure that all clothes and shoes have labels in them. We have had a number of incidents this year already where children with identical shoes have got them muddled up and when they are exactly the same style and size this makes it extremely difficult for us to sort out.

Dates for your diary

Friday 24th January - Non-Uniform - Unwanted Gifts

Friday 31st January - Inside Out Mental Health Day

Thursday 6th February - Trashion Show

Friday 7th February - Reception Stay and Share

Tuesday 11th February - Safer Internet Day

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day

Monday 10th March - Pupil Progress Meetings

Friday 14th March - Comic Relief Day - Mad Hair

Friday 21st March - Non-Uniform - Chocolates

Friday 28th March - Reception Mother's Day Assembly

Friday 4th April - Easter Bonnets and Raffles and Reception Stay and Share - Finish at 1.30pm

****Please note, some dates may be subject to change****

