

Morning routines:

When you bring your child to school in the morning, please encourage them to put their coat on their peg, their book bag in their tray and their water bottle on top of the drawers. This not only encourages their independence but it helps them to remember where things are!

Please help your child to do the self-register, putting their name with the plate or lunch box to show what they are having for lunch. As soon as your child has done this, please help them to find an activity to do then say goodbye and leave them to their play. Remember the quicker you make this routine, the easier it will be for your child to settle, and the less traumatic for you!

Home time:

Thank you for bearing with us as we learn all of your faces! So that we can ensure the children's safety at home time we will only be sending children home through the Foundation Stage door leading out to the climbing frame. We ask that all parents wait in the Foundation Garden for us to send your child to you.

If your child is going home with someone else please write this in the home time diary and sign it so we have written permission to release your child to someone else.

There is a sheet in the front of the diary for you to let us know of any regular collections e.g. if your child is going to JACS on a certain day or if they will always be collected by a grandparent one day a week.

Reading:

Your child will soon be given a reading record and a book from the library to share with you. Over the next few weeks as the children settle into school we will assess them and give them books appropriate to their level. There will be more information to follow so we can explain about how we teach reading at St. John's. We do ask that you read to your child daily. Please write in the reading record at least twice a week to let us know about the reading you are doing at home.

Foundation

Mrs Ball & Mrs Dann

Phonics:

All Children in the Infants will have daily phonics lessons taught through the scheme 'Letters and Sounds'. Children will be grouped into different phases to learn phonics according to their phonic ability. This will start as soon as we have settled all the children.



Maths

We do daily counting groups to encourage children to order numbers to 20 then beyond. Some of the skills we are focusing on are:

- * Counting and recognising numbers up to 20
- * Counting groups of objects accurately
- * comparing numbers, saying which is more or less.

Forest Schools:

In October we will begin to run our Forest School sessions. This is where we walk to the school field where the children can explore the natural environment, make dens, play imaginative games and have lots of space to explore and learn. Forest School will take place on Thursday mornings with Melanie Gravett and Mrs Carr, who will be in the class every Thursday morning this month to cover my planning time which will help the children to get to know them.

The children will go on alternate weeks so we take half the class at a time. For Forest School children will need old clothes to change into - a long sleeve top, trousers and wellies. We have some waterproofs in school, but if you have your own please do bring them in! We will be on the lookout for parent helpers to join us for Forest School, we need at least one helper each week. (See below if you would be able to help!)

Parent helpers

We are always grateful for parent (and grandparent!) helpers in school and some of our activities will not be able to go ahead without your help.

Please let us know if you could help with any of the following:

- * **Forest School** - Thursday mornings 10-12. (there will be a sign up sheet on the board)
- * **Cooking** - Friday mornings
- * **Reading** - any day and time!

If you have any other interests or activities you could help with (e.g if you enjoy gardening or art) please let us know! Thank you.

Topic Overview Foundation

Making a Splash

Term 1 2017

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| Classroom Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Octonauts lab in the home corner ✓ Seaside café in Year 1 | Educational Visits | None this term - settling in |
| Wow Factor Launch | Cinema afternoon - watching Finding Nemo | Key Texts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rainbow Fish ✓ Sharing a Shell ✓ Commotion in the Ocean ✓ Tiddler |
| Outcomes /Open Day Focus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Art exhibition ✓ Poems and songs | Activities parents can do to support. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Talk about creatures that live in the sea ✓ Talk about any holidays to the seaside and what you saw/did. |
| Communication and Language | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Taking turns to speak in a group. ✓ Talking to someone new ✓ Making up stories in play ✓ Listening to others | Personal Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Building confidence with new adults and a new setting ✓ Sharing toys with other children, waiting for a turn. ✓ Taking turns when playing games ✓ Talking about our interests |
| Physical development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ PE - travelling over and under obstacles, climbing and jumping. ✓ Dough disco and Squiggle as you wiggle - developing muscle control and large scale movements ready for writing ✓ Name writing ✓ Developing control and coordination in small finger movements - tweezers, threading, cutting | Maths | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Counting forwards and backwards to 10 then 20 ✓ Counting a set of objects accurately ✓ Using the vocabulary same, more, less to compare sets of objects ✓ Comparing the size of objects ✓ Beginning to recognise numbers to 10, then 20 |
| Literacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sharing stories, talking about characters and events ✓ Mark making and emergent writing - making labels and signs ✓ Daily phonics once settled. | Expressive art and design | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Collaborative painting/collage ✓ Exploring paint, chalk, pastels ✓ Making models, joining materials. ✓ Making up own imaginative stories in play |
| Understanding the world | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Exploring sea creatures ✓ Looking at pictures of the seaside - then and now ✓ Thinking about how we can look after the ocean ✓ Harvest festival ✓ Healthy eating | | |