



Our Foundation Stage team consistently strive to make everyday a special learning experience for all children. We achieve this by developing strong, positive relationships with every child and their family. Our staff are committed to providing children with the highest quality teaching and learning experiences through a broad and varied play based curriculum, which takes account of children's current interests and preferred learning style. We effectively use the EYFS to plan rich and meaningful experiences both indoors and outdoors, and most importantly we always have fun!

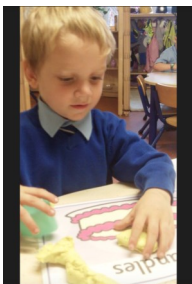
Foundation Stage Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016

**Our Lady
Immaculate
Catholic Primary
School**

Welcome

A very warm welcome back to school for all our children and parents within Foundation Stage, we hope you had a lovely summer. We've also welcomed some new friends to Our Lady Immaculate Foundation Stage. In order to get to know each and every child and their family we would encourage parents to let their child's key worker and class teacher know of any important events or occasions within the family as well as sharing any after-school activities and achievements such as swimming, dancing or football.



Home Activities:

- ☺ Read daily with your child, encouraging him/her to talk about what they liked and who their favourite character was and why?
- ☺ Point out numbers in the environment and encourage your child to count daily using one to one correspondence.
- ☺ Ask your child what they have been doing in school and encourage discussions.
- ☺ Encourage your child to stay for a healthy hot dinner, which is free for all infants.

What's inside...

Parents Room	2
Early Readers	2
Topics this Term	2
Come and See	3
Outdoor Play	3
Handwriting	3
Uniform and PE	3
Internet Safety	3
Dates	3
Reading Books	4
Punctuality and Attendance	4

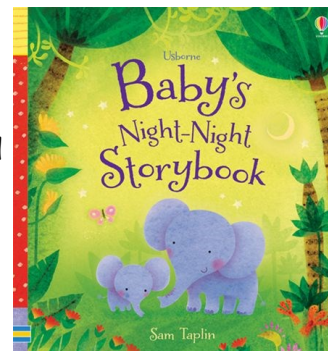
Home School Communication Books

This book is a way of sharing your child's weekend news or any special events. We would love to see your child's drawing writing and photographs. Your child will then be given the opportunity to share their book each week during our key worker sessions. Your child's homework will be inside so please can you bring the books back into school weekly for us to read your news and share our events.

Early Readers

This year we will continue to develop a love for stories focusing on reading for pleasure. Children in Reception will be taking both reading books and a story book of their choice home to share with their families. Nursery children can choose from a selection of story books each session to take home and share. It is vital that your Nursery or Reception child has a reading folder which can be purchased from the school office for **£4.50**.

Reading folders should be brought to school daily as we strive to read with each child everyday. Please indicate in the reading record whether your child enjoyed the story, what they liked best, characters they liked or disliked and why? Also let us know if you would like more information on how to support your child when reading at home.

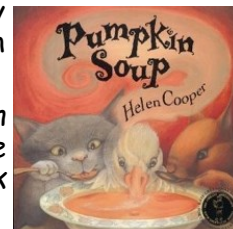


Topics This Term

Topics this term will link closely to the R.E Curriculum and will encourage children to talk about themselves, their family, the Church and local community. Each child's class teacher and Key Worker will spend time getting to know each child during our first topic 'Me and My Community'. Please send in family photographs to be placed on our key worker walls to support your child in their transition to Nursery or Reception. Other topics this term will include children finding out about the world around them through first hand experiences of their environment during 'Autumn' and 'Winter' as well as topics initiated from children's ideas and interests. Activities will provide opportunities for learning across the 7 areas of development in both the indoors and outdoor environment.

We will begin our learning on Autumn by reading the book Pumpkin Soup by Helen Cooper. To help your children with this topic we will send every child home a copy of the book so they can share their learning with you all. We would love to know of any ideas your children may have for learning from this book so please feel free to share these ideas with us in your home communication books.

About the book: Cat, Duck and Squirrel live in an old white cabin, with a pumpkin patch in the garden. Every day Cat slices up some pumpkin, Squirrel stirs in some water and Duck tips in some salt to make perfect pumpkin soup- until the day Duck wants to do the stirring.



We plan to share with the children how to make pumpkin soup, how to write a recipe, how to share and work together as a team, what to do when you are upset, learn about Autumn and leaves, role play the book using our ICT Green Screen software, write a set of instructions to teach people how to grow a pumpkin and look through the story for examples of rhyming words.

Through the book we are going to cover all areas of the curriculum; maths, Understanding the World, Technology, Expressive Art & Design, Music and Personal Social and Emotional Development.

Come and See

As part of Come and See RE Topics this term we will be covering Domestic Church—Family through the topic Myself, Baptism/Confirmation—Belonging through the topic Welcome and Advent/Christmas—Loving through the topic Birthday. All children will be involved in practical and exciting activities to support learning.

Our Outdoor Area

We believe that outdoor play is a vital part of foundation stage learning and therefore provide daily access to our large sand pit, mud kitchen, water area, climbing frame, trikes and games to support learning. As part of our outdoor curriculum children will be getting involved in activities and experiences in water, sand, gloop and mud! We appreciate that the children will either get wet or very dirty therefore we provide waterproof clothing to ensure school uniforms are not affected. We do however need parents to provide a pair of wellies for their child to enable them to access all our exciting activities and experiences to the full extent. Please write your child's name inside of each wellie and hand them to your child's class teacher. We also ask parents for their support in enabling your child to dress and undress independently in order to put on and take off their all in one waterproof suit as well as their shoes and wellies.



Handwriting

As a school we are working to raising our standards in handwriting. As such in EYFS we will be teaching good handwriting habits. We have compiled a tracing book which we will send home for homework showing you children how to form the letters correctly. Please feel free to help your children practice their handwriting. Our aim is by the end of Reception your child will be able to write simple sentences which can be read by themselves & others and write own names correctly. Use capital letters and full stops to demarcate sentences. Correct pencil grip, correct letter formation for familiar words.

Uniform and PE

Nursery uniform is a royal blue tracksuit with light blue polo shirt and plain black trainers/shoes with Velcro straps to encourage independence. Reception children must wear a light blue shirt with a tie and wear plain black shoes/trainers with Velcro straps unless they are able to tie their own shoelaces. Reception children will have P.E every Wednesday afternoon. Children are to come in to school every Wednesday wearing a navy blue tracksuit/shorts, light blue polo shirt and plain black pumps or trainers with Velcro straps. Tracksuits can be purchased from Lisa's Schoolwear on Priory Road, Anfield and at Laser Schoolwear, London Road.

Internet Safety.

As part of our Internet Safety education we have introduced a new programme of teaching called E-Cadets. It's a fun and child-led way of learning all about Internet safety to keep everyone safe on line. We will be electing 2 children from each class to become class E-Cadets . Please feel free to look at the website. [Www.ecadets.co.uk](http://www.ecadets.co.uk)

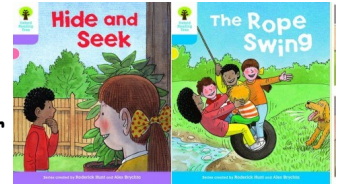
Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 4th November	Learning through Play session (all parents/grandparents welcome)
Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October	School closes for 1 week half term
Dates to be confirmed	N2 Nursery and Reception visit to Chester Zoo and N1 Nursery will have a Christmas treat back in school.



Reading Books

Thank you for coming to our reading meetings we hope you found them useful. If you were unable to attend one of the meetings please see your child's class teacher to receive your reading pack.



PE: Reception children will be taking part in weekly PE sessions every **Wednesday**. Please can you make sure all Reception children come to school on a Wednesday wearing full school PE Kit. Every other day children should wear their school uniform.

Wellies for school. Could we ask that you write names in each boot to prevent them from going missing, thank you.

Please remember to **read** with your child every night and to bring in their reading folder every day.

Central Library—William Brown Street if you need further information then check out the web site <http://liverpool.gov.uk/libraries/find-a-library/central-library>

Punctuality and Attendance Initiative.

We are launching a new attendance and punctuality initiative with regular class certificates and prizes to win.

Good attendance is a vital part of your child's education, we ask you to avoid unnecessary absences by booking appointments after school and taking holidays only during statutory school holidays.

Starting good attendance and punctuality habits in EYFS will enable your child to reach their full potential across their Primary education curriculum. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

"If you want your child to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales"
(Albert Einstein).



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