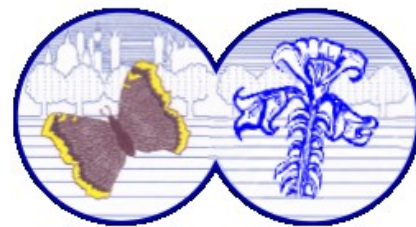
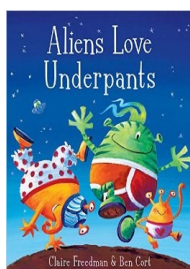
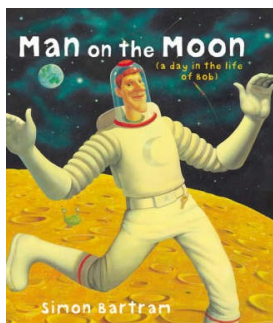


# TERM *talk*



CURRICULUM NEWS  
FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ST JOSEPH'S  
Issued Termly Spring 2018 Reception January - March 2018

## English



In the first half of the Spring Term, we will be learning all about space. We will be reading 'Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram and 'Aliens Love Underpants' by Claire Freedman. After our space topic, we will be learning more about various fairy tales 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. The activities in our Literacy lessons will be based around these fairy tales; writing letters and re-telling the stories through drama. The children will also be writing lots of sentences relating to these stories and reading information books to find out interesting facts about space.

In the second half of the term children will focus on the non-fiction topic dinosaurs. We will also continue learning the traditional fairy-tales of 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. In all these classic tales we will be writing information books, post-cards, letters and stories using sentences with high-frequency words and phonetically spelt words. We will also be focusing on the importance of finger spaces and full stops.



We will continue to focus on the importance of correct letter formation. Children are expected to form their letters from the correct starting point and begin to write lower case letters so that they are all of a similar size.

a b c d e  
f g h i j k  
l m n o p  
q r s t u  
v w x y z



## Reading

At school, your child reads weekly with an adult. This reading will support their learning, however, the biggest impact for your child will be reading every day at home.

We would like you to spend ten minutes EVERY day reading with your child with a focus on encouraging your child to sound out and blend words using their phonics on their own. This is essential for their developing fluency and accuracy.

The children are also working hard to try to learn as many of the 40 high frequency words as they can. So please help them at home. There will soon be an awards ceremony where they will receive certificates which will be distributed according to how many of these words they can read.

Library Book days:  
Red: Friday Rainbow: Friday

## Phonics

Phonics lessons occur daily. Some children are working through Phase 3 and 4 sounds but there are some children who are still finding Phase 2 sounds a challenge. For this reason the two classes have been subdivided into separate groups for phonics.



## Maths

In the first half term we will be learning how to add and subtract using one digit and two digit numbers:

The children will record their answers in number sentences complete with addition, subtraction and equals signs. e.g. If I have 4 pencils and I find 2 more, how many will I have altogether?

$$4 + 2 = 6$$

If I have 8 apples and give two away, how many will I have left?

$$8 - 2 = 6$$

Please continue to practise writing numerals correctly with your child as this will be an important part of writing their number sentences correctly.

The children will also be learning about weight and capacity through a variety of creative and exploratory activities. They will use everyday language when comparing the heaviest and lightest objects when using balances. Full, empty and half-full are also concepts we will be exploring. Lots of bath time fun ahead! Please reinforce this vocabulary with them at home.

After Half Term we will counting in 2's and 10's and doubling and halving numbers to 20. We will also be working on time, measurement, money, position and direction.

Double 6 is ?



## Religious Education



In Religious Education lessons, the topic will be 'Getting to know Jesus.'

The children will learn how Jesus has a great love for each one of us.

Through exciting and interactive activities, the children will think of ways in which we can show our love for Jesus. They will learn that Jesus cured people who were ill and as a year group we will be thinking of ways in which we can show our love for people who are ill. This will include having a doctor's role play corner. The children will also learn the story of Wedding Feast at Cana. We look forward to hearing your children's experiences of being bridesmaids and page boys so please share if you have any photos. Even as guests, we would love to see your family photos with everyone all dressed up in their finery. Please share with us and we can use them in our display.

After half term the topic is 'Sorrow and Joy'. By the end of the topic we hope the children will understand that we should always be kind to each other and that it is very important to say sorry when we do hurt someone and to know that we need to ask Jesus to help us to be kind to others.

## Home Learning Diary

Thank You to all those parents and carers who have been updating their home learning diary. Please continue to update these regularly 'wow' sheets are available upon request. Please hand books back to us by January 22nd.

**Please note home learning diaries are not Homework books. Do not allow your child to write in them.**

## Stay and Play

Our stay and play session was a great success so thank you for attending and supporting your child.

The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their learning environments with

you. We will keep you



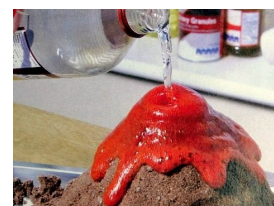
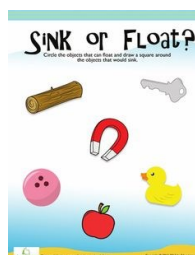
## Technology

Children will be learning about the different technology that is in school, at home and in their local environment. The children will embark on a 'Technology in the Environment' walk near school.



## Understanding of The world

In this area of learning the children will be, amongst other science, investigating items which float and sink and those which hover! They will be exploring light and dark and learning about the job of an astronaut. They will be collecting facts about dinosaurs and learning about their various features. They will also be learning about what the planet would have looked like when dinosaurs roamed the earth. We will be learning how to create our very own volcano in the classroom!



## Art

In Art this term the children are going to be using their imagination to make dinosaurs with clay and also a range of reclaimed materials. They will also be designing their own fairy-tale character puppet and making it out of felt and sewing it together, developing their fine motor skills and hand/eye coordination. Rainbow class will be visiting The National Gallery on 17th January and Red class on 21st March. Please see your class teacher if you are able to volunteer as we will be unable to attend without parental support.



## Physical Education

For our PE sessions we will be doing gymnastics, developing skills of jumping, travelling and using apparatus. Children will also be working on improving their social skills through working with a partner.



### Please note:

**The correct PE kit must be worn at all times.**

This consists of a plain white T-shirt and navy blue shorts. A track suit for outside PE during the colder weather would be a good idea!