

Dear Reception Parents/Carers,

Below you will find our curriculum letter **for the Autumn term**, along with suggestions of how you can support your child at home. This curriculum letter offers an insight into the broad and rich curriculum offered at Our Lady of Lourdes. It offers an opportunity for you to support your child's learning beyond the classroom.

General Information for Reception:		
School Day	<p>The doors open at 8:35am and school starts at 8:45am. Please be on time, as it can be disruptive for the class and unsettling for your child if they are late.</p> <p>You are encouraged to walk around to the Reception gate with your child but the expectation is that your child to walk the short distance from the gate to the classroom on their own. This helps them to develop their independence and confidence.</p>	
Uniform	<p>Please ensure you refer to the Uniform Policy regarding our school uniform and PE kit on the following link: https://www.ourladyoflourdesrcprimary.org/page/?title=Uniform&pid=67</p> <p>Ensure you label all your child's clothes and belongings so that they may be easily returned.</p>	
PE	<p>Both classes will have outdoor PE.</p> <p>All PE kit must be labelled with children's names.</p>	
Home Learning	<p>Home learning is issued on a Friday to be returned on a Wednesday.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tasks will be based on our current topics of study. <p>Homework and general messages will be posted weekly on our on-line platform. If your child has an exciting weekend, an interesting hobby or completes work that they want to show us, please post it for us to see; we love sharing in their joy and successes.</p>	
	Reading	<p>1. Read with your child and record this in their reading journal daily to show what you have read together, along with the discussions you have had with your child. We will quickly assess your child for their phonetic knowledge and, depending on their level, we will send home Read Write Inc. phonics and sound blending books on a Monday, which are then collected back on a Friday. As your child progresses they will get a second book each Thursday. In addition, your child will take home a library book to share together.</p> <p><i>How to help your child:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Listen to your child read daily. ➤ Discuss what your child has read with them, talking about the characters and settings (even if they are using the picture cues they are still developing their oracy and comprehension skills). We can further develop our reading skills by asking questions such as: <i>Why did the character do that or feel that way? Why has the author chosen these words to describe the character? Have you read another story by this author? Where is the story set? Have we read other stories in that setting?</i> ➤ Encourage your child to read a range of genres, including non-fiction. ➤ Please encourage your child to read for pleasure and model this to them where possible. It encourages the children to read when they see adults with books and newspapers to hand. ➤ Use the world around you to help develop your child's interest in reading e.g. signs, posters, road names, instructions for a game, magazines and recipe books, as well as the books provided by school.
	Maths	<p>2. Maths will be available on Seesaw on a rotation basis with other areas of the curriculum.</p>

Subject	Autumn Term curriculum information and ways to support your child's learning beyond the classroom
English and Phonics	<p>This term we continue to focus on learning our phonics through Read, Write Inc. Pupils begin to segment and blend the sounds in simple words. The children will have a daily English lesson where text conventions are explored and they learn to write for a purpose. They will explore a variety of texts and learn the conventions of story writing and how they are able write their own stories, recounts and letters, using full sentences as well as capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.</p>
Ways to support your child at home	<p>Please sign and acknowledge the reading your child has completed at home. Children are encouraged to borrow library books and share them with their family. Children can change their book each day or if it's a longer title, keep it for a few days. Please write the title, date and any comments.</p> <p>Model correct pencil grip and encourage your child to write their first name and surname at home in pencil, along with any words they can sound out and wish to write. Some of our pupils in Reception enjoy writing stories or even writing letters at home.</p> <p>Encourage your child to speak in full sentences, listen when others are speaking and for them also to comment on what has been spoken. Encourage discussions with your child at every opportunity to further develop their communication skills and also to improve and widen their vocabulary.</p> <p>Please view our OLOL Phonics Video https://www.ourladyoflourdesrcprimary.org/page/?title=School+Videos&pid=33 to review how each sound is taught. This video has been made by the children especially to support parents.</p> <p>Encourage the children to identify the high frequency words when you are reading with them or when you are out and about in the environment. Find the link to these lists: first 100 high frequency words https://www.highfrequencywords.org/hfw100fp.pdf.</p> <p>Recommended Reading List – Reception This list includes both fiction and non-fiction recommendations to read with your child to encourage a love of books and to develop vocabulary, comprehension skills and creativity.</p> <p>https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/reception/</p>
Maths	<p>At the beginning of term, we focus on consolidating the children's mathematical knowledge so pupils can confidently ascribe meaning to each number. They will also learn to compare amounts, order numbers, recognise and continue number patterns, explore shape and sequences and record early addition independently. They will consolidate their knowledge of one more/ less, number bonds as well as 2-D and 3-D shapes and patterns.</p>
Ways to support your child at home	<p>Look at numbers in the environment and everyday life, such as bus and door numbers and practise writing and reading numbers initially to 20 but by the end of reception to at least 50.</p> <p>Reciting numbers forwards and backwards and from any given number.</p> <p>Count items for example, pasta, beans, Lego etc.</p> <p>Look for and recognise 2D and 3D shapes in the environment.</p> <p>Recognise different patterns including number, shape and colour.</p>

<p>RE</p>	<p>Creation and Covenant Our first topic helps us to appreciate the wonderful world around us. We will share and explore the story of creation, recognising this as a gift from God. We will celebrate the love we receive from our family and explore how children join the family of Christ through Baptism.</p> <p>Prophecy and Promise Later in the term we will think about the story of the birth of Jesus. We will explore the events before Jesus was born and discuss the visitors he had after his birth. We will explore the ways in which people prepare for Christmas during the time of Advent.</p>
<p>Ways to support your child at home</p>	<p><i>Please see the separate R.E. topic letter on the school website for key dates and how to support your child/children at home.</i></p> <p>Discuss the uniqueness of your child and how we all look different but are equally special. 'Welcome- as we welcome your child to our school community they will begin to understand that they have a special place in our school, local and church community.</p> <p>'Birthdays', what does this mean to you and your family? We also discuss Jesus' birthday and why this is special.</p> <p>Discuss what happens during Mass and how saying a prayer is special time between us and God.</p>
<p>Understanding the World</p>	<p>The topics this term are: Starting Out, Weather/ Seasons, Materials and Space.</p> <p>Starting Out links closely with our RHE Curriculum where the children are learning each other's names, how to make friends and what their responsibilities are in school. As part of the children's development they begin to explore The Natural World through exploring and learning about the Seasons and different types of weather. When the children explore Materials they consider the different types of materials and their uses and then begin to undertake their first experiment. Learning about Space takes place over several weeks and links with our annual Space Week.</p> <p>We will also begin the children's Forest School Adventure when they take their learning outdoors. This is an opportunity to explore the world around us, develop resilience and naturally to ask lots of questions as they explore, discover and make connections with their learning.</p> <p>Through Understanding of the world your child will be exposed to a variety of vocabulary and will take part in discussions, exploration and experiments.</p>
<p>Ways to support your child at home</p>	<p>To support this at home, you could research space and the solar system or perhaps familiarise your child with a variety of natural and man- made materials.</p> <p>Encourage the children to find out some fun facts about Space or perhaps go into the garden at night and try some star spotting.</p> <p>As with all subjects, please encourage your child to develop their vocabulary and support them to speak in sentences.</p>
<p>Physical Development</p>	<p>We will focus on the development of our spatial awareness alongside our focus on developing gross and fine motor skills. Children will learn to follow instructions and experiment with different ways of moving as they learn to negotiate space and experiment with speed.</p>
<p>Ways to support your child at home</p>	<p>Children are expected to be independently changed for P.E. They should practise by dressing for school; daily (this may mean it takes longer to get ready for school each morning but it will be worthwhile). Information about the correct P.E. uniform is available on the school website. https://www.ourladyoflourdesrcprimary.org/page/?title=Uniform&pid=67</p>
<p>Expressive Art and Design</p>	<p>We will further develop the pupils' knowledge and skills in drawing, painting, printing and 3D models. We will use a variety of materials to expand their experiences and refine their fine and gross motor skills, using imagination and creativity.</p>

	In music the children will learn a variety of songs both action and oral ones and learn to perform them alongside poems and well known stories. They will also encounter some age appropriate vocabulary and experience seeing pupils and adults perform.
Relationships and Health Education	New Beginnings Getting on and Falling Out Friendships Growth Mind-set

As always, if there is anything you are unsure of or would like to clarify, please speak to your child's class teacher.