



## Early Years Overview (Autumn 1)

Welcome to St. Mary's! Over the next half term the children will be settling into the new world of St. Mary's. They will be busy familiarising themselves with the new routines and the environment whilst forming new friendships too – they're going to be very tired! During the first half term the Early Years staff will be spending time getting to know the children; their likes, dislikes and preferences for learning.

Much of our learning this half term will be through our topic 'All about me' where we will be thinking about our own family, our school family and learning about our local area.

### How will the staff be supporting the children this half term?

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

A new school can be a very scary time for anyone and this can be especially the case when you are 3 or 4. We will be supporting the children to settle well into the new environment and to feel happy coming to school. We will show the children the different areas in the classroom (and how to use them) in order for them to be able to do so independently.

We will encourage the Nursery children to	We will encourage the Reception children to
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Express when I feel happy, sad, tired or upset.</li> <li>• Take turns with other children with adult support.</li> <li>• Explore the classroom with adult support.</li> <li>• Separate from their grown up in the mornings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about their feelings</li> <li>• Listen to the rules and expectation and begin to follow them.</li> <li>• Develop an awareness of themselves and form their own opinions. –</li> <li>• Become more independent at coming into school in the morning and getting ready for home at home time.</li> <li>• Know it is okay to ask for help and will do so.</li> <li>• Build new positive relationships with their peers and the staff.</li> </ul>

#### Communication and Language

We will encourage the Nursery children to	We will encourage the Reception children to
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listen to stories and nursery rhymes</li> <li>• Listen to instructions given</li> <li>• Listen during adult guided activities.</li> <li>• Focus on an activity of their own choice for a short period of time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listen to other children in their setting.</li> <li>• Listen during story time and show an interest in the books being read.</li> <li>• Sit on the carpet and show some attention (this may only be for a short time).</li> <li>• Understand appropriate 'why' questions.</li> </ul>

#### Physical Development

We will be preparing the children for writing through our daily 'Dough Disco' sessions and we will be supporting the children to manage their own needs too e.g. putting on their coat and taking off their jumper by themselves.

<p>We will encourage the Nursery children to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know how to scoop and pour e.g. sand, mud.</li> <li>• Run around the setting with some control and direction.</li> <li>• Clap and stamp to music.</li> <li>• Use a palm grip when using mark making tools.</li> <li>• Use spring loaded scissors to make snips into paper with adult support.</li> </ul>	<p>We will encourage the Reception children to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin to use their core muscle strength to achieve good posture when sitting on the floor or at the table.</li> <li>• Begin to safely use tools and equipment.</li> <li>• Use pencils and other equipment</li> <li>• Make snips in paper either using one hand or two.</li> </ul>
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### Literacy

We will be supporting the children to tune into the different sounds in the environment and following on from this to be able to hear different sounds in spoken words. Alongside our All about me topic, we will be listening to the stories which Julia Donaldson wrote and develop our knowledge of story books. We will be introducing phonics sessions as the term progresses. Reading books will be sent home in the next few weeks and further information on how you can support your child's early reading development will be shared soon.

<p>We will encourage the Nursery children to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start to join in with familiar rhymes and stories.</li> <li>• Start to learn new vocabulary from stories, rhymes, poems and non-fiction books.</li> <li>• Have a favourite book(s) and seek to share it with others or look at alone.</li> <li>• Hear different environmental sounds around them.</li> </ul>	<p>We will encourage the Reception children to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Join in with rhyme, songs and poems.</li> <li>• Hold a book correctly and carefully turn pages</li> <li>• Understand books have a beginning and an end.</li> <li>• Listen and enjoy sharing a range of books both fiction and non-fiction.</li> <li>• Know that text in English is read top to bottom and left to right.</li> <li>• Recognise pictures and illustrations in a text Vs the writing.</li> <li>• Spot familiar words in books.</li> </ul>
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### Mathematics

We will be practising counting and singing lots of songs to help children learn the structure of the number system.

<p>We will encourage the Nursery children to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise, name and match colour.</li> <li>• Begin to show an interest in counting aloud verbally to at least 5.</li> <li>• Be able to 'give 1' when asked.</li> </ul>	<p>We will encourage the Reception children to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Match and sort objects and pictures.</li> <li>• Understand and make pairs.</li> <li>• Understand rules and to sort objects following rules.</li> <li>• Compare amount, size, mass and capacity</li> <li>• Explore and create patterns.</li> </ul>
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### Understanding the World

We will be encouraging the children to talk about their families and experiences. As part of our topic we will be thinking about how we can look after our local area through recycling and how to keep ourselves healthy. As part of our R.E. topic this half term, we will be learning about Harvest. Our Spanish sessions will also start later on during the half term.

<p>We will encourage the Nursery children to</p>	<p>We will encourage the Reception children to</p>
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- Use words 'now' and 'next'.
- Talk about their family, who they live with and any pets and name them.
- Show respect and care for their environment.
- Talk about their home environment and school environment.
- Explore their world and environment through their senses.

- Talk about their life story and how they have changed.
- Look at similarities and differences between the natural world around them in the past and present
- Talk about members of their immediate family and community.
- Recognise the differences between themselves and their friends.
- Talk about what makes them feel special.
- Explore the natural world and describe what they see, hear and feel when outside.
- Understand the effects of the changing seasons around them (Autumn).

### Expressive Arts and Design

We will be supporting the children to build up their bank of nursery rhymes and simple songs and in addition will be supporting the children to develop storylines in their play.

We will encourage the Nursery children to	We will encourage the Reception children to
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise colours and chooses them for a purpose.</li> <li>• Use thick paint brushes</li> <li>• Use playdough to roll, cut, ball, sausage.</li> <li>• Build towers with large construction equipment.</li> <li>• Dance to music and explore moving to music in different ways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.</li> <li>• Add details to self-portraits using a choice of materials.</li> <li>• Begin to use observation skills to draw things with increasing details.</li> <li>• Sing in a group or on their own, following the melody and increasingly matching the pitch.</li> <li>• Copy-clap the rhythm of names</li> <li>• Explore high sounds and low sounds using their voices.</li> </ul>

### What enhancements will there be to support the topic?

- Home Corner role play area
- A range of books to support the topic
- House small world
- Numbers and letters linked to the topic
- Playdough mats linked to the topic
- Pictures, photographs and video clips linked to the topic
- Counting games and jigsaws related to the topic

### Books to support the children's learning

- All about families
- The Colour Monster
- The Invisible String
- Monkey Puzzle
- Ruby's Worry
- The Scarecrows' Wedding

Nursery Rhymes and Songs to support the children's learning

Nursery	Reception
I'm a little Teapot Tommy Thumb Incy Wincy Spider Wind the Bobbin up Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes Hickory Dickory Dock	If you're happy and you know it Days of the week Monday's Child Polly put the kettle on The Animal Fair The Muffin Man

During the half term we will also be following the children's interests which will result in mini-topics popping up as we go along!

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to any of the Early Years Team.

Many Thanks

Mrs Allen