St. Mary’s Catholic Primary School  Knaresborough

a Voluntary Academy

**Curriculum Newsletter for EYFS**

**Autumn 2**

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| **Maths** **math_magic_squares[1]**The children have made a fantastic start to their work in Maths this year, and are already becoming confident in saying the days of the week, using time language and knowing their number pairs to 5 (1+4, 2+3 etc.). We are also constantly revisiting our numbers to 20 and have begun to look at larger numbers and simple calculations. This half term, we will continue to develop their confidence and use of number, as well as look at 2D and 3D shapes, length, height and capacity and money. You can help your child at home by talking to them about shapes in the environment and the value of different coins, as well as counting objects and actions when you are out and about.  | **English** We have been working really hard with our phonics over the first half term, and children are becoming more confident to identify written letters when hearing the sound. Some children are beginning to blend and sight-read their tricky words and are enjoying having a go at reading books. Please so read these as frequently as you can at home. We have also been practising writing these letters, using the pre-cursive handwriting script. The next letters we will be learning to read and write are c,k,ck, e,u,r,h,b,f,ff,l,ll,ss. **stack-of-books[1]**We are beginning to develop the skills to read and write simple sentences, and all children will be working towards writing their full name from memory.  |
|  **RE** **Description: http://www.footstepsuk.org/sites/default/files/footsteps_feet.gif**Our focus in RE this half term is ‘God’s Family’. The children will learn that each person is a very special member of God’s family. They will learn about and retell the story of the Nativity. Children willbe helped to reflect on the thought that they and their friends are part of God’s family and that each one of them is special. This will be linked to our PSED as we learn to respect each other.As part of our ‘Celebrating the Light’ topic, children will be encouraged to talk about different festivals of light, including Diwali, Hanukah and Christmas. We will learn about why the season of Advent and Christmas is so special to Christians.  | **C&L / PSED / EA&D**The children are building up a secure base of **Communication and Language (C&L)** and their vocabulary is growing constantly.Role-play and team-based activities are designed to help children develop together, as well as some specific activities. You can support your child by teaching them the meaning of new words, and modelling the correct pronunciation and oral use of grammar. Our **Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)** is linked to our RE topic, as we talk about who is in our family and how we show people that we care for them. Our **Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)** this term is linked to our topic, including doing Diwali dance and making a diva, and then later in the term Advent and Christmas crafts. There is also always a wide range of open-ended tasks for children to engage in and challenge themselves.  |
| **Topic**Our ‘Celebrating the Light’ topic, will cover a range of religious and scientific approaches to light and dark. We begin by looking at the Hindu festival of Diwali, which is celebrated at the end of October. We will then learn about Bonfire night, and children will be encouraged to think about safety alongside enjoyment of this special time. http://www.rmhccolumbia.org/Graphics/Images/Cartoon-House-and-Children.gifWe then go on to learn about different animals preferences for light and dark, and why some animals are nocturnal. We will spend a few weeks looking at space and the night sky, and then as December arrives, we will be celebrating the season of advent and preparing for Christmas.  | **Physical Development:** In PE, on Thursdays, all the children, have a really good go at getting themselves dressed and ready for their activities.You can help your child be encouraging them to undress themselves for bed and put their own pyjamas on.  |
| The children will all be offered a healthy fruit snack at school to have at playtime. Please provide your child with a named bottle of**water**, which they will be able to access whenever they need it. Please also send your child with a named outdoor coat, as this will enable them to enjoy outdoor activities whatever the weather (we do have a wide selection of Wellington Boots in school, but you may like to bring these too!)  |