

St Mary Queen of Martyrs Voluntary Catholic Academy

Term: Spring 1

Year Group: Foundation Stage 1

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

During this new half term, we will be focusing on the following things:

- Developing the children's sense that they are members of the Foundation Stage and school communities.
- Becoming more confident with social situations

We always like the children to work together so we will be trying to work with them playing with more than one person and finding solutions to conflicts and rivalries.

We would like to the children to know that there are rules learn and to follow them. The children will be developing independence and trying to remember what the rules are without needing the help of an adult.

With it being cold weather, we will be encouraging the children to dress themselves more independently and also meeting their own care needs (e.g. washing their hands thoroughly).

**Communication and Language**

During this term, we will be continuing to give the children lots of opportunities to read a range of stories. This half term, we will be focusing on poems, rhymes and books with a winter/frozen theme in English lessons. This will give the children opportunities to:

- Sing a larger repertoire of songs and know different nursery rhymes.
- Enjoy listening to longer stories and start to tell us about them.

Throughout the day, children will be given the chance to explore their learning through quality provision. We will be aiming for the children to develop their communication skills and help them with their pronunciation of different words.

Through good quality provision, we will be engaging children in good quality conversations with their friends and adults supporting the taking of turns.  
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**Mathematics**

In maths, we will be teaching the children to:

- Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners', 'straight', 'flat', 'round'.
- Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof, etc. Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle, etc.
- Understand position through words alone – for example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing. Describe a familiar route. Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.
- Continue to extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf. Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern.
- Develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually (subitising). Recite numbers past 5.
- Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.
- Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').
- Show 'finger numbers' up to 5.
- Link numerals and amounts for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.

**Religious Education**

Our RE topics this term are all about celebrations and gathering.

- In the Celebrations topic, we begin to learn about who the Parish Family are and their role within the church. We will also learn about the different celebrations we have in the church as well as Jesus' visit to the temple with Mary and Joseph.
- In the Gathering topic, children will begin to learn about the way in which the Parish Family gather in the church and the important role Jesus has in the church.

The children will also participate in weekly collective worship based on stories from the Bible. They will help set up the sacred space and join in with prayers and hymns.

## Literacy

- Within phonic sessions, we will continue to use the Aspects principle of listening skills. We will be starting RWI Set 1 with some of the older children.
- We will also be helping the children to understand that print has meaning and can have different purposes. We will teach them the different parts of the book during story time.
- We will continue to use extended vocabulary in the Foundation Stage setting and encourage the children to use such vocabulary.
- We will be working on writing our names as well as writing some letters correctly.
- The children will be encouraged to retell a story or a rhyme they have been listening to.

## Physical Development

Throughout the provision, we will:

- Continue to develop movement, balancing and rising skills using a range of different 'wheeled' apparatus
- Practise climbing up, balancing on and using alternate feet on an obstacle course
- Use one-handed tools and equipment (e.g. scissors, playdough cutters)
- Encourage children to be increasingly independent as they get dressed (e.g. putting their coat on and doing their zip up).

## Understanding the World

This half term is all about things that are 'Frozen', linking in well with the season of Winter. We will be focusing more on the geographical and scientific elements of the curriculum by:

- Planting seeds and caring for growing plants
- Understanding the key features of an animal's life cycle
- Respecting and caring for the natural environment
- Celebrating the differences between people (with a focus on the Sami people)

## Expressive Arts and Design

Connected to the topic of 'Frozen' we will be exploring and refining our artistic techniques by drawing birds using pencils and feathers using chalk.

We will also be making bird feeders as part of our DT topic by exploring different materials freely and developing ideas on how to use them. We will be joining different materials too. Children will also be creating shapes with continuous lines to represent different objects.

We will be singing entire nursery rhymes and playing instruments to express our ideas about 'Winter'.