

Reception Newsletter

Learning Challenge:
Twinkle, twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are?

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

Welcome back after the Christmas break. We hope you all enjoyed a relaxing and fun time of celebration, and are feeling refreshed ready to face the New Year!

The children have settled back into school very well, and all are very keen to learn. A huge thank you to all of you who attended the Christmas Nativity at the end of the last term. The children performed exceptionally well and should all be very proud of themselves.

Days to Remember

Class Assembly	Tuesday 26 th March
Visits	TBC
Half term	18-22 February 2019



ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL
'LEARNING TO LOVE, LOVING TO LEARN'

Class Teacher:
Miss Molins/Miss Field-Simpson
Class Support:
Miss Brenda/Miss Burke

Special Notices

Please ensure your child is at school on time and in the correct school uniform. Lessons begin at 9am and children who are regularly coming in late are missing essential learning every day.

Values:

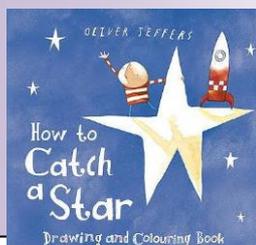
January: Hope
February: Appreciation

Learning Challenge:

This half-term we're going to be learning about Space. During this topic we will look at a variety of texts including: *How to Catch a Star*, by Oliver Jeffers or *Man on the Moon* by Simon Bartram.

This challenge gives children a sense of the universe. While this is a concept that children will find difficult, it does give them a chance to consider facts like our own sun as a star, stars making constellations and the use of the word 'star' in relation to fame.

We will be spending time learning about planets, the sun, the moon and stars and key events involving space travel.



Pupil Zone



Please make sure your child is regularly using the Pupil Zone area of the school website with access to plenty fun games to help their learning as well as access to homework!

Quick tips to support learning at home

- Helping your child to **complete and return all homework.**
- Encouraging your child to **learn their times tables to develop automaticity.**
- Read, question and discuss books/vocabulary with your child for at least **20 mins every night.**
- Reading and discussing the "Wednesday Word" every week with your child.
- If your child wants to play on the computer/ipad direct them to the Pupil Zone on our website!

Growth Mindset

Why do some people achieve their potential while others do not?

In school we have been focussing on the importance of our mindset. Our mental attitude can determine how we interpret and respond to situations. We tell the children the brain is like a muscle that gets stronger and better the more it is exercised. This sends the message that intelligence can be learnt, and that we are not born 'intelligent'. But with hard work and persistence our brain makes new connections and we become smarter.

We have been focussing on the power of the word 'yet'. When children find their work challenging their response is 'I can't do it yet!', knowing that if they keep trying, eventually, they will be able to feel that sense of achievement.