



# St. Basil's

Catholic Primary School

*In God's love we learn and succeed by sharing and caring together.*

NOVEMBER 2022

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## Monthly Curriculum Newsletter



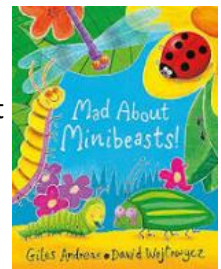
### Pre School

This term the children have been comparing lengths using words such as taller/shorter. We measured ourselves to find the tallest child and the shortest child. The children have been measuring lots of things around the classroom. Our favourite thing to measure are the water bottles.

Our book this term has been 'Mad about Minibeasts'. We have been looking closely at lots of different minibeasts. We have discussed which minibeast we would be and we have looked at rhyming words.

Over the past couple of weeks we have been very busy preparing for Christmas. We have looked at the nativity story, we have made lots of Christmas crafts and have been practising for our very first nativity 'A Miracle in Town'.

From all of us here at St Basil's Pre School, we wish you a Merry Christmas!!



### FSRA

In English, we have been reading the story I'm going to eat that aren't. The children have thought about different things that the anteater could eat, beginning with the same letter. The naughty anteater only wanted to eat ants and the children have convinced him to try something new! The children have been very good at writing a list for the anteater to read, sounding out all the words and writing them independently.

In Maths, the children have been learning about subitising to 5, the children are getting very good at looking at a group of objects, and knowing how many are there! Dice are very good for this! The children have also been learning about comparing sets of objects, and checking the amounts by counting them. We then moved onto comparing numbers, knowing which numbers are worth more or less. The children have played a lovely game this week where they had to roll a dice and add counters to a number track to see who had more and who had less. Ask the children all about it, they will play with you at home, you just need a dice and some counters.

In RE, our topic is birthdays. We have been learning about the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus's birthday! The children have been working really hard to learn the lines and the songs for our Christmas play, which tells the story of the nativity. We hope you enjoyed it this week!

In Understanding the World, the children have been learning all about Autumn and Winter, comparing the seasons I'm talking about the weather! The children enjoyed watching the snow out of the window last week. I'm talking about how when water is frozen, it turns to ice! Brrrr!

Last week, the children really enjoyed singing and performing a poem in Christmas coffee morning wearing their Christmas jumpers! We hope you enjoyed it as much as they did performing it!

We hope you all have a happy and holy Christmas!

## Year 1

Year One have finished off the term just as it began by working super hard and enjoying a variety of learning experiences. In science we have finished learning all about materials. We looked at the different materials and what they are used for. The children brought in some fantastic material monsters from home that they made from recyclable materials. In keeping with our theme of monsters, we have finished reading the story Nibbles the Book Monster. The children have loved discovering all the mischievous things he nibbles. Naughty Nibbles went into different traditional tales such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Jack and the Beanstalk. We explored these stories within our shared reading time.

In maths we have continued exploring addition and subtraction. The children particularly enjoyed Active Maths sessions where they have hunted around Year one for different calculations to solve. We are finishing off the term by exploring 2-D and 3-D shapes. In PE we have been learning a dance to one of our songs from the Christmas Play 'Snowflake Serenade'. The children have all worked really hard to focus on the tempo of the song matching their movements. With Mr James, the children have been working on their different PE skills and are now applying these to the sport of tennis.

In History we have been exploring how TV has changed over the years. The children have been very intrigued looking at what television sets used to look like compared to how they are now. Thank you for your support with their homework to find out what programmes parents watched as children and compare this to what they watch themselves now. We have also looked at different significant events and people who have changed TV over time. In art the children have explored the work created by Joan Miro and what they like about the pieces of work we have looked at. The children will finish our art topic by creating and painting their own art inspired by Joan Miro.

Our RE topic has focused upon the topic of 'Waiting'. We have loved learning about Advent as an important time of preparation for the Birthday of Jesus. We have found out about different ways that Christians get ready for this celebration. We have read special messages on our Advent calendar in class each day and found simple things that we can all do to make a difference. We were so excited to perform our Nativity play 'Christmas Recipe' and have been busy making some lovely things in class to bring home and share with you!

We hope you all have a wonderful, happy and peaceful Christmas everybody!

## Year 2

Wow December has flown by! This week we have performed our Christmas Nativity, The Christmas Recipe. We have loved learning the songs, performing and playing our claves. Thank you to all the parents, carers and family who watched our performances. We have also celebrated Christmas Jumper Day.

In RE we have learnt about preparations in anticipation for Christmas. We have used drama to retell the Christmas story. The children have learnt about the Annunciation and the Visitation.

In Maths, the children have learnt about place value and addition. The children have practiced using manipulatives to consolidate their knowledge of tens and ones. The children have continued to use success criteria to support themselves in these lessons.

The children have looked forward to our weekly shared reading sessions where we have been reading 'Above and Below'. The children have loved learning about the different habitats and researching about new animals.

In English, we have become owl experts and are now writing our own owl fact files.

In DT, the children have designed their own moving Christmas cards after evaluating existing products.

In PE the children have focused on their gymnastic skills with Mr James. They have been practicing different balances.

Have a very merry and holy Christmas from Year 2



## Year 3

This month in Year 3 we have been working extremely hard building up to our Christmas Production of 'Holy Joe' with Year 4. We learnt lots of songs, hand chimes to play along and dance movements in time to the music. It went great and we were all so proud of ourselves!

In R.E. our topic is 'Visitors', thinking about how we welcome visitors and how this links to the Christmas story during Advent.

In English we have carried on working with our text 'Winter's Child'. This week we are working on producing our own story based on the text using a different season such as 'Autumn's Child' or 'Summer's Child'. This has linked to our Guided Reading text 'The Ice Palace', and we are all looking forward to finding out what happens to Ivan and his brother escaping from Starjik.



In Maths we have worked hard to learn our 3, 4 and 8 times tables and we are now reviewing our knowledge of addition and subtraction methods. We are also focusing on counting the minutes on a clock in our Maths Meetings.

To finish off our Science topic 'Rock and Soils' we have learnt how soil is created and all about how fossils are formed over millions of years.

We have built up our gymnastics skills with Mr James, using lots of equipment and performing balances and rolls safely.

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a very busy month! We cannot believe it's nearly Christmas! We are very excited!

We thoroughly enjoyed doing our Christmas play, Holy Joe! We enjoyed learning our poem for Christmas coffee morning as well.

In English, we have loved reading our book Leon and the Place Between. We have written some exciting diary entries about Leon's time in the magical Place Between.

In Maths, we are practising our reasoning and problem skills in our multiplication and division topic.

In Science, we have been learning all about living things and how to classify them using classification keys. We have researched habitats and looked at the characteristics of living things.

In R.E, we have been looking at our topic 'Gift', discussing Advent and learning all about the celebrations during Advent.



## Year 5

The countdown to advent has started with some unforgettable experiences. Our first trip this half term was to Safety Central where we had an amazing day learning how to be safe in different situations. There were lots of different parts and we learnt how to stay safe in the house, on the street, near train lines and power stations. There was even a real train and train track! We couldn't believe that they even showed us a simulation of a room that went on fire and what it would look like after the fire had happened. We had the best day and the staff were so impressed with us that they even tweeted about us!

We all had worked super hard for our Spirit of Christmas performance and learned lots of songs, poems and readings. On top of that, we learned Silent Night in German and even learned the Makaton versions of 'We wish you a Merry Christmas' and 'Merry Christmas everyone'. We performed this on the big stage for all of our parents and carers which went down as a huge hit!

We also had another fantastic trip to "Heaven sent" which transported us back nearly 2000 years to Jerusalem and Bethlehem. We came across nasty Romans trying to find baby Jesus and kind villagers that guided us through market places. We experienced what life was like back then and had even had the opportunity to pet and see donkeys and goats. This was the best live action way we have ever heard the nativity story.

## Year 6

In English we have been looking at the text 'Can we save the tiger?'. We have been writing about vultures and how they are endangered focusing on parenthesis or conjunctions, modal verbs and adverbs of possibility.

In Maths, we have been learning about adding and subtracting fractions such as mixed numbers and improper.

In PD we have been looking at how to celebrate diversity. We have looked at 'My Princess Boy' and how it is ok to be different.

In RE we have been learning about love and hope throughout advent.

Recently, in Science, we went on a nature hunt and studied living things with microscopes and magnifying glasses.

For the coffee morning we sang 'Step into Christmas' by Elton John and recited 'Twas the night before Christmas'. Both clarinet and brass replay played either 'Jingle Bells' or 'Little Donkey'.

6KL have been swimming this term and are loving it.

Earlier this year, we went to Safety Central and looked at fire, water, and road safety. We also looked at antibullying, healthy eating and the recovery position.

In Year 6 we have got a Christmas tree and advent calendars and even Christmas themed homework!

Written by Hannah and Reece.

