



St. Basil's

Catholic Primary School

"We love, learn and succeed following Jesus"

SEPTEMBER 2023

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Monthly Curriculum Newsletter

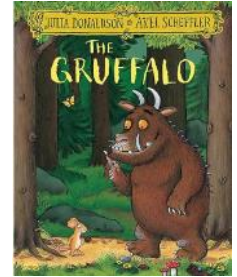
Pre School

The children in Preschool have thoroughly enjoyed making friends and becoming familiar with routines this month.

In English, we have enjoyed reading lots of stories and learning about the Gruffalo! The children have used special Gruffalo puppets to re-tell the story to each other, which they thoroughly enjoyed! Preschool have made their very own Gruffalo puppet and Gruffalo portraits.

In maths, we have been learning some new number nursery rhymes. Some of our favourites so far are 5 little ducks, 5 little speckled frogs and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

In Preschool, the children have been enjoying the outdoor area by building dens, using the trim trail and driving around the track on their bikes. Dough Disco time has been a favourite in Preschool, the children have loved strengthening their fingers and using their fine motor skills.



FSAR

Wow what fantastic first month reception have had in school! All children in reception have settled in well to our St Basil's family.

The children have enjoyed exploring both inside and outside in early years. They celebrated their first week in school with a teddy bear's picnic, where they even got to bring a teddy in from home!

In RE, we have learnt all about The Bible and why it is special to us. We have also read about the creation story and made some beautiful art work to admire God's world.

In EYFS, the children have loved learning all about our shared reading text, The Gruffalo. They have learnt songs and engaged in role play with the puppets. They have been keen to read the story in our class library area.

All children have enjoyed taking home their reading for pleasure book to share with their families at home. Children have loved being cabin crew at working at the airport in our role play too. The children have enjoyed listening to nursery rhymes and following actions.

In English we are reading 'We're going to find the monster!'. The children have already created lists of what they may need to catch the monster in school.

In Maths we have learnt how to count to 3 and have been focusing on our number formation.

The children have loved their PE sessions with Mr James where they have been focused on team games.

Year 1

Year One have had an excellent start to their year and have settled in well. The children have worked hard exploring our school rules and have made a class charter together, this includes promises for us all to follow so that we have a happy and safe classroom. We have also been exploring the theme of 'Relationships' in Personal Development lessons. This includes within families and in friendships – appreciating the uniqueness of each of these. This has all linked perfectly with our first RE topic all about 'Families'! We have enjoyed sharing our own experiences of what we like to do with our families, as well as finding out all about the very special holy family with Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

In Maths we have started by looking at numbers between 1 and 10. We have explored these numbers inside and out as well as learning lots of different ways to represent the numbers, using equipment practically and pictorially on a tens frame.

In English we have started our first text of the year, 'Meesha Makes Friends' by Tom Percival. We have learnt how Meesha finds it hard to make a real friend, so she creates her own. The children have designed and made their own friends too! They are excited to read to the end of the book and see if Meesha can make a friend and start to feel less lonely. We have written some great sentences already to describe different parts of the story.

In History we have been exploring the lives of two astronauts, Mae Jemison and Helen Sharman. We have created a timeline of their lives and have been making fact files all about them. In Science, we have been finding out about different materials and their properties. We are going to be exploring in art, which of these materials is the best for printing. The children have started their PE lessons by practising their fundamental skills. They have also begun to look at the sports of tennis and netball. We are looking forward to playing games against one another once we have learnt all the skills and rules linked to both sports.

In Computing our first focus has been to look at grouping and sorting of objects. We are now exploring online safety and have created our own avatars for our profiles on Purple Mash. Other fun learning has included learning a new rap song 'Hey You!' in our Music lessons.

Well done to all of the children for settling so quickly and showing so much effort and enthusiasm - we think this is going to be a great year!

Year 2

We have got off to a lovely start in Year 2 and the children are settling in very well. We are currently reading a lovely book in English called 'Look Up' and we have been learning all about the inspiring Mae Jemison – the First African American woman to be accepted into NASA's space programme. We have written letters, fact files and instructions on how to build a rocket and we have even created a menu for astronauts.

In Maths we are currently focusing on place value where the children are working on understanding the value of tens and ones in numbers. We have been comparing objects and numbers using the terms 'more than' and 'less than' and we have also been learning how to plot and estimate numbers on a number line. Our next topic will be addition and subtraction.

Our current R.E topic is 'Beginnings'. We have spent some time learning about the Genesis scripture on 'The Creation' and we have created some wonderful pieces of Art retelling the scripture of the psalm. We have had time to reflect on our own beginnings and the beginning of our new school year.

In Science we have been learning all about materials. We have discussed the properties of different materials and what they are used for. We have been working on how to think scientifically and asking ourselves 'Why are these objects made from these materials and not a different one?'. We will soon be conducting our own experiment which the children are very excited about!

Well done Year 2, keep up the good work!

Year 3

In Year Three, we have had a fantastic start to the school year. It has been wonderful to see all the children apply themselves to their learning and settle into Year 3 so well! The children have thoroughly enjoyed the trip with Year 4 to Delamere Forest.

In RE, we have shared our love of God through learning about significant people. The children have particularly enjoyed reading and discussing the scripture and reflecting upon the significant people in their lives. The children have shared their thoughts and ideas in this week's Collective Worship with a focus on, 'live wisely, think deeply, love generously.'

Our English topic this half term is based on the text, 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin. The children have used drama and discussion to talk about characters' thoughts and feelings. The children have been producing excellent writing based on the text and have continued to develop their punctuation skills using inverted commas within their writing.

Within Maths, the children have been applying their place value knowledge to flexibly partition numbers to 1000. The children have used a variety of methods to solve reasoning and problem solving questions. They have continued to build upon their knowledge of mathematical facts through Fast Maths and Maths Meeting sessions with a focus on number bonds.

In Geography, our topic this half term is 'Natural Disasters'. The children are learning about the different layers within the Earth. Along with how the Earth is made up of tectonic plates and how earthquakes can occur. In Science we are exploring the properties of gases, liquids and solids. The children have particularly enjoyed the experiments within the lessons. Within Art as a school all children are learning about different techniques within printing. Year 3 and 4 are focusing on mono-printing and the famous printmaker Andy Warhol. P.E lessons have been a highlight so far this term. The children are enjoying developing their skills in table tennis.

Thank you for all the effort and support the children are receiving at home which is evident in the children's fantastic homework! Please continue to keep up with Read to Succeed so the children can earn their book.

Year 4

Wow what a start to Year 4! We have had a fantastic start to our year with a trip to Delamere which we really enjoyed! In maths we have been learning about the place value of numbers to 10,000 and have been practising partitioning them in different ways.

In English, we have been reading Counting on Katherine and have been practising using a range of conjunctions to vary our sentences. We have discussed dreams and ambitions and have written letters to different people.

In PD, we have been discussing relationships and talking about the importance of friendships and what makes a positive friendship.

In geography, we have been looking at different continents around the world and discussing the different parts of the earth. We have begun to look at how earthquakes happen and used atlases to locate where in the world these took place.

In science, we have been looking at states of matter and completed an experiment to see which fizzy drink was the fizziest and to explain that gases have weight.

Year 5

This month in Year 5, we have been thinking about our RE topic 'Ourselves' and how we are all unique. We have created posters to share around school to encourage everyone to appreciate their differences and to be thankful for the unique qualities that God created us with.



In PE we have practiced our Table Tennis skills, working hard to try and hit the ball across the table to our opponent, picking up the pace to maintain a rally.

We have also had the Mini Police in school, sharing lots of important information with us about road safety and the importance of adhering to the speed limits on the roads. We are looking forward to helping the Police monitor the speeds of drivers driving past our school and will be out using the Speedometers next week!

Year 6

For English we've read the book King Kong. We explored different versions of the opening to King Kong and gave our opinions on these, making sure we justified them with evidence. We explored the characters of Carl Denham and Ann Darrow. As a class, we created a role on the wall for Ann Darrow.

In Maths we have recently learnt about place value. We have learnt to read and write numbers to ten million, how to round numbers and place numbers on a number line. This week we have started to learn about the four operations which are subtraction, division, times and addition.

Our current R.E topic is unconditional love. We have read the Bible story of the Prodigal Son. We remembered that our God is generous.

In Science we learnt about groups of animals including fish, mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles. Our latest lesson was great, we learnt about the 5 kingdoms. We learnt the broad groups of living things which are plants, animals, fungi, bacteria and protists.

We are creating a game in ICT using codes. Using this, all of us developed our knowledge of coding.

We learnt the 7 continents in Geography, they are Asia, Africa, North and South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australia. Our brand new topic is coasts, last lesson we learnt about weathering. Together we learnt about physical weathering, chemical weathering, biological weathering and erosion.

During P.E we did map reading also known as orienteering. We went around the school looking for clues, this helps us later in life to read maps.

Written by Tenuli, Freya and Alexis