

St Joseph's

Reception Newsletter



Please remember-

***Sign your child's reading diary every night. The diary is checked daily.
Return library books every Thursday, so your child can pick a new book.
Thankyou***

Topic:

We will continue with our topic 'Starry Night'; This project explores the differences in the world at night compared to during the day. It teaches children about the importance of a good night's sleep, and helps them to discover what is happening in the world while they are sleeping, including finding out about nocturnal animals. Next week we will be reading 'How to Catch A Star' by Oliver Jeffers. We will be thinking more about space and looking at the planets around earth.

Supporting your child at home

- **Talk about what the children have learnt this week in class.**
- **Go outside when it is dark, or look out the window and talk about what you can see. Can you count the stars? Can you find the moon? Does the sky change from one night to the next?**
- **Develop and teach your family your own alien language - what word could you use for 'hello'? How about 'blooba', 'floppa' or 'cookaboo'? You choose - it's your alien language!**
- **Create a vehicle that you could use to travel into space. What would it look like? You could create a rocket using cardboard tubes, a spacecraft using old boxes or you could design a different type of vehicle to get you there!**

Maths – We will continue our Maths topic 'Alive in 5' to help the children develop a deep understanding of numbers up to 5. We are also going to exploring mass and capacity.

Supporting your child at home

- **Build a home-made balance scale outside using a coat hanger and pots, or a piece of guttering and a crate. Use the scale to explore which items are heavy or light. How do they know? Prompt children to put more than one object on each side and explore what happens.**
- **Provide a selection of containers of different shapes and sizes and ask children to investigate which holds the most water. Children could use a small cup to fill each container, counting how many cups the containers hold.**

Our star poem

A Wise Old Owl

A wise old owl sat in an oak,
The more he heard, the less he spoke;
The less he spoke, the more he heard;
Why aren't we all like that wise old bird?



Phonics
Please continue to use the Home Learning support booklet provided to help progress your child's learning.

The children have now moved into smaller coloured teaching groups – so that they can progress at the appropriate level. Please have a look at the letter that was sent home with the children this week that will inform you of the group your child is in.

Please refer to the booklet sent home (for home support) that will give you an indication of whether your child is making expected, below or greater progress.

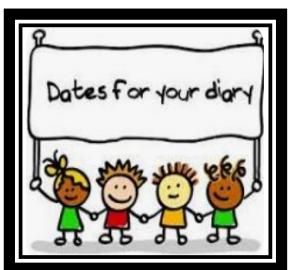
If you have any questions or concerns regarding phonics please speak to the class teacher in the first instance.



Information:



Family Lives offers a confidential and free* helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parent line). Please call us on **0808 800 2222** for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life. If you don't get an answer first time please do try again.



Pyjama Day **12th January (all day)**

Mother's Day EYFS Assembly **13th March 2:15 pm**

Reception Year Group Assembly **7th May 9.00am**

EYFS School trip to Black Park- Reception children and Preschool children due to start Reception in 2026. More details to follow. **2nd June**

Father's Day EYFS Assembly **19th June 2:15 pm**

We still need some spare school clothes for boys and girls. We also need spare underwear and socks. If you are having a sort out please think of us.

We would also like some garments with zips, to set up a zip station.



Here are a few links to support your children's learning at home.

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/home-learning-environment/small-talk/>

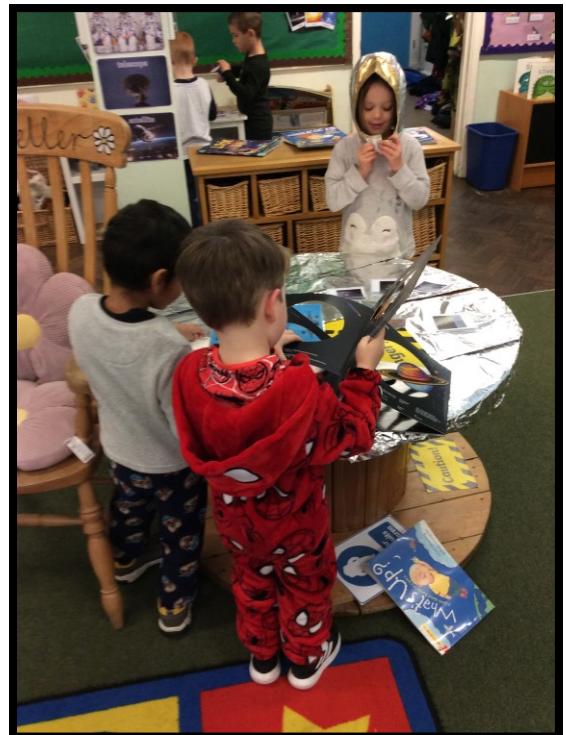
<http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>



We have had a fabulous week exploring space and thinking about day and night. Our phonics is on fire, we are now using our phonics in our English lessons to write about books we are reading.





Thank you for all your support

The Reception Team