

St Joseph's

Reception Newsletter



Next week is Communication Week in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). It is a dedicated period focusing on enhancing children's speech, language, and communication skills through playful, language-rich interactions. It emphasizes the importance of back-and-forth conversations, reading, and storytelling to build vocabulary and strengthen crucial communication skills.



[Click here to see some activities to support Communication week](#)

Topic:

We are Dinosaur Detectives! We have been exploring the incredible world of prehistoric animals.

We will uncover fascinating facts about dinosaurs next week and investigate differences between fearsome meat-eaters (carnivores) and plant-eaters (herbivores). This week we are reading 'The Girl and The Dinosaur'.

Supporting your child at home: Make them a mission!

Mission 4: Prehistoric Habitat Designer

Design and build a home for a chosen dinosaur using a shoe box or tray.

The Task: Use natural materials like twigs, leaves, and stones to create a swamp, forest, or desert.

The Critical Thinking: Why did you choose these items? Does your dinosaur need tall trees to eat from, or a place to hide?

Mission 5: The Giant Footprint Comparison

Step into a dinosaur's shoes—literally!

The Task: Draw a life-size T. rex footprint (about 1 metre long) on the floor using chalk or paper.

Maths: How many of your footprints can fit inside one T. rex footprint?

The Bonus: Find an object in the house that is the same size as a dinosaur's tooth? (Hint: Some T. rex teeth were as big as bananas!).

Maths – Next week we will be building 9 and 10, thinking about one less and one more than. We will be exploring the composition to 10 and bonds to 10. We will be using 10 frames to support our learning.

Home learning challenge:

Please find a ten frame in your child's bag to support your home learning activity.

One More and One Less:

The Picnic Guest: Set 9 items on the ten frame. Say, "One more guest arrives!" and add 1. Ask, "What is one more than 9?"

The Snack Thief: Start with 10 items. Say, "Oh no, one snack was eaten!" and remove 1. Ask, "What is one less than 10?"

Our star poem



Phonics

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

Popcorn

Popcorn, Popcorn, sizzling in the pan.

Shake it up, shake it up,

Bam, Bam, Bam.

Popcorn, Popcorn, now it's getting hot.

Shake it up, shake it up,

Pop, Pop, Pop.





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.



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 no longer require items for our junk modelling, thank you for the previous donations.



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>



The children have had an adventurous first week back!
They have been very excited about our new topic.





Thank you for all your support
The Reception Team