

# St Joseph's

## Reception Newsletter



### **A reminder about our Mother's Day Chitty Chatty Tea Party on 13th March at 2:15pm.**

Two tickets have been placed in your child's book bag. **Due to fire regulations, EVERYONE** attending the event must have a ticket, so please ensure you bring them with you on the day. If you do not have the ticket you will not be admitted. If you are bringing a sibling, please note that they will require a ticket and will count as one of the two provided. It is essential that we remain within fire guidance for the number of people allowed in the hall. We apologise that we cannot facilitate more people – but this is out of our hands.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Topic:**

**We are still on a mission to uncover fascinating facts about dinosaurs next week, we have** done a "roar-some" job so far! This week, we are switching our focus to a new story called '**Dear Dinosaur**' by Chae Strathie. In this book, a boy named Max writes letters to a T. rex at the museum, and the dinosaur actually writes back! It's all about making friends and asking big questions.

### **Supporting your child at home: Make them a mission!**

#### **Mission 4: Salt Dough Fossil Hunter**

Scientists called **palaeontologists** study fossils to learn about dinosaurs. Now you can make your own!

**The Task:** Mix 2 cups of flour, 1 cup of salt, and 1 cup of water to make a dough. Press your dinosaur toys (or even leaves and twigs) into the dough to leave an imprint.

**The Science:** Bake your "fossils" at a low heat (around 100°C) for 2–3 hours until they are hard. Once they are cool, you can bury them in a tray of sand and use a paintbrush to "discover" them.



**A further support resource will be sent home early next week to aid you in supporting your son / daughter further.**

**Maths** – Next week we will be shifting our focus toward the "building blocks" of mathematics. We will focus on the numbers **9 and 10**, specifically looking at **doubles** and the concept of **odd and even**.

In Reception, exploring how numbers are composed helps children move beyond simple counting to "seeing" how numbers work.

**Doubles:** Learning doubles is a vital stepping stone for mental addition and multiplication later on. It helps children recognise patterns and calculate quickly.

**Odd and Even:** Understanding that some numbers can be shared equally into two groups (even) while others always have one "left over" (odd) is the foundation of division and fair sharing. It develops a child's **number sense**—their ability to understand what a number actually looks like in space.

### Home learning challenge:

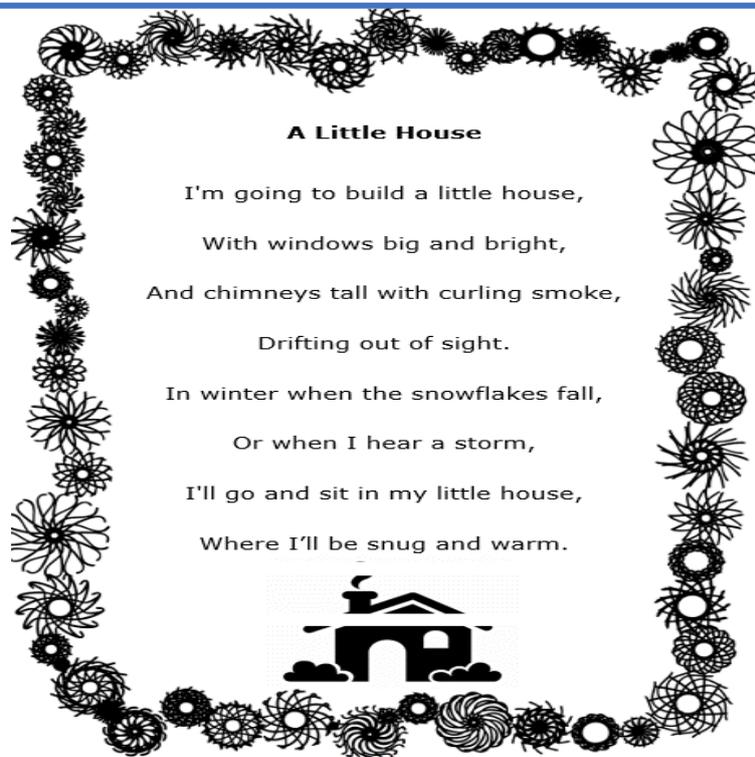
#### **Mission: The Dino-Mirror Challenge**

**The Task:** Have your child pick a small number of "dino eggs" (stones, grapes, or LEGO bricks)—start with **1, 2, 3, 4, or 5**.

**The Action:** Place them in a row on the table. Now, ask your detective to "be the mirror" and place the exact same number in a row right underneath the first one.

**The Maths:** Count them all together!

"I have 3 eggs. I doubled them. Now I have 6!"



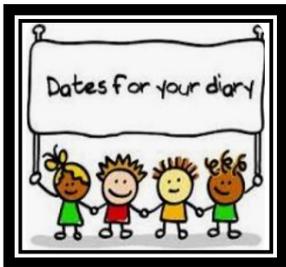
**Our star poem**



## 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**

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2:15 pm  
(2 tickets per family)**

**Reception Year Group Assembly**

**7<sup>th</sup> May 9.00am**

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**Father's Day EYFS Assembly**

**19<sup>th</sup> June 2:15 pm**

**Parents' Evenings – week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> March – communication has been sent home regarding booking appointments (Tuesday / Wednesday evening)**



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 were very excited to be learning outdoors in the fabulous sunshine. They enjoyed creating, problem-solving and collaborating together.



