Communication, Language and Literacy

We will be introducing the children to Phase 2 of ELS Phonics. The children will be introduced to one letter/sound a day through a variety of activities.

They will also begin learning about 'Harder to read and spell' words. This is used to describe words that cannot be read using phonetic sounds e.g. .the ,so, me.

We started the school year by studying the whole school text ***'Journey' by Aaron Becker.*** This focused on visual literacy and early writing. We have also looked at the 'Colour Monster'.

As part of our poetry unit, we are exploring Nursery Rhymes.

Intended skills:

- Performance (volume, tone, expression)
- Actions
- Sequencing

Our new topic is called 'Peek into the Past/Myself', with the core text 'I am Henry Finch' and more.

Intended skills:

- Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions
- Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding
- Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary

RE

Branch 1: Creation and Covenant

Learning focus:

We will explore God's creations, celebrate what it means to be us and what makes us special and unique.

One of the ways the Church expresses this responsibility is through the Catholic Social Teaching (CST) principles of stewardship, human dignity, and solidarity, which Pope Francis expresses in his encyclical 'Laudato Si'' (2015).

Please see the termly RE newsletter for more detailed information on each topic, alongside the monthly Ten:Ten parent newsletter. More information is on the school website

Reception Curriculum Web

Autumn 1

2025-2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you find this newsletter helpful in supporting your child in learning at home and at school.

Robins: Miss O'Brien

Art & Design and Technology

Learning focus: Junk Modelling and Marvellous Marks

Intended Skills:

- Exploring mark making through different drawing materials.
- Beginning to draw from observation using faces and self-portraits as a stimulus.
- Explore and learn about various types of permanent and temporary join.
- Use a combination of materials and joining techniques in the junk modelling area.

Maths

Learning Focus: Number and Patterns

We will introduce and develop an understanding of

- Counting
- Sorting
- Comparing
- Patterns.

For the first half term we will practise:

- number formation
- counting
- recognise and identify repeated patterns.

Understanding the World

Learning focus:

Our first History topic is 'Peek into the Past', which will allow children opportunities to reflect on memories and past experiences. Our Geography topic is 'Exploring Maps' through discussion, story-telling, games and creative activity. Robins will also be exploring all that Reception has to offer, as well as sharing with friends, family, homes and their journey growing.

Past and Present Intended Skills:

- Talk about a past and upcoming events in their life
- Knows they have grown from a baby into a child and that they will get older
- Can talk about how they have changed from when they were a baby
- Sequence family members by size and name
- Describes who is in their family and discusses similarities, differences and changes

Exploring Maps Intended Skills:

- Draw information from a simple map.
- Explore the natural world around them.
- Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.
- Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live.
- Understand that some places are special to members of their community.

Reception Curriculum Web

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Relationships and Health Education

Learning focus:

Zones of regulation:

Recognising our feelings, understanding our class charter, catholic social teaching and behaviour values.

Created and Loved by God:

Learn the language and given the understanding of the fundamental principle that we were created by God out of love and for love.

Family and Relationships:

- Learning to explore why families and special people are valuable
- understand why it is important to share
- develop strategies to build relationships
- see themselves as valuable individual
- explore diversity through thinking about similarities and differences

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Learning focus: Understanding Emotion

Robins have been enjoying the story 'The Colour Monster' which explores the different emotions; it helps us to identify and find ways to manage and regulate them.

This helps the children as they often experience a range of these emotions during the first few weeks of school whilst they are getting used to their new school routine.

Another story we will be looking at is 'Our Class is a Family' which urges children to create a compassionate environment at school where everyone feels respected and valued. This also links to our school's Golden Rules.

Intended skills:

- Explore and understand their feelings
- Identify when they may be feeling something
- Begin learning how to communicate and cope with their feelings and emotions.

Homework

Homework is sent out every Friday and is due the following Friday.

Children are expected to read every night. Books are changed on Fridays.

Important Dates

School Photos: 07/10/2025

Forest School: 08/10/ 2025

Important Reminders:

Seesaw log ins have been given out

School Gateway – log in to give consent for trips

Music

Learning focus: Watch Rhythms

- Study songs, sounds and rhythms
- Learn about the use body percussion.

PE: Tuesday and Wednesday

Learning Focus: turn-taking games and resilience

Intended Skills:

- Agility, Balance and Coordination
- Develop and strengthen our gross motor skills.

Please make sure appropriate footwear is worn.