

**St Augustine’s CE Primary school**

**Nursery Newsletter**

**Autumn 2**

Welcome back, we hope you had an enjoyable half term break!

**Topic**

Our topic this term is Colour, Shape, and Pattern.

The children will be exploring our environment, making connections to the colours, shapes and patterns they see in everyday objects. We will be sharing books such as ‘Brown Bear, Brown Bear’, ‘The Lonely Firefly’ and ‘Mouse Paint’, to support their learning journey.

**Understand the World**

During this term there will be several special events and celebrations happening around the world: Remembrance Day, Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas. We will be exploring all these events and discussing how different families celebrate.

**Communication, Language and Literacy**

We will be learning new songs and vocabulary that support the topic and books we share. We will be introducing some Phonics Phase 1 activities from the ‘Letters and Sounds’ scheme. Phase 1 is about exploring and differentiating everyday sounds. The children will be encouraged to identify the sound before seeing the object making the sound, e.g., a plane flying in the sky, the siren on a fire engine, a phone ringing, a dog barking, a tap dripping. This early skill will support their literacy skills. Don’t forget to have fun and engage your children in conversation about everyday things, which will help to develop and extend their vocabulary.

**Home Reading**

Each day your child will be encouraged to take a book home to share with you for at least ten minutes in the evening. Encourage your child to hold the book upright and support them to turn pages one at a time. Look at pictures and talk about what they see. You can engage your child by asking open questions, ‘What can you see? Where are they? (Park, home, forest) What are they doing? How are they feeling? Why? How do you know? Remember to sign their reading diary every day. If you child has enjoyed, their story or has said something interesting, write it in their reading record book and let us know. If you do not have anything to share, initial the entry so we know they have read.

**Mathematics**

We will be revisiting numbers 1 to 10, focussing on one number for each week. You can support your child’s learning by looking for numbers in the environment, on doors, cars, buses etc. We will also be practising counting, starting from one. Please find opportunities to count with your child everyday: counting the steps they walk up, apples they see in a bowl, spoons in a drawer, eggs in a box etc. Don’t forget to encourage them to count one item at a time! We will be learning the names and characteristics of 2D shapes such as a circle, square, triangle, oval, and rectangle. You can support your child by looking at shapes in the environment: a round wheel, a square window, a rectangular door etc. We will continue to have a focus shape each week to explore. Don’t forget to help your child identify patterns, i.e., ‘Can you find the stripy socks, spotty top, wavy/straight line?’ Can they find a matching pair? (shoes/socks).

**Personal Independence**

By the age of 3, it is expected that children will develop a greater awareness of how to manage their own personal needs. As parents, you can support your child by encouraging them to ‘have a go’, developing their persistence. When dressing offer them choices i.e., ‘do you want the blue socks or the red socks?’ Then allow your child to take the lead when dressing themselves. This promotes their physical development and sense of achievement. Let your children have ago feeding themselves and drinking from a cup. If your child is in nappies, please support your child in managing their self-care. If you would like any advice on how to potty train, please let me know. Whenever possible, try to leave buggies at home. Give your children the opportunity to walk through the school gates, supporting their physical development and confidence.

**Cooking at Nursery**

We will continue cooking with the children this term. A donation of £4.00 each term, is greatly appreciated. This money is used to buy the ingredients. Cooking and making playdough is a great learning opportunity for the children to take turns, develop their mathematics skills, such as measuring and counting, as well as making connections to how ingredients can change.

**Key Dates**

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| **Date** | **Event** |
| Friday 8th November 2024 | Individual class photographs |
| Friday 15th November 2024 | Children in Need |
| Sunday 19th November (19th to 25th) | Road Safety Week |
| Monday 11th – Friday 15th November | Anti-bullying week |
| Monday 2nd – Tuesday 3rd December | Parent Meetings |
| Thursday 12th December –  9.15am – 11.15am | Forest School trip |
| Friday 20th December | Last day of term |
| Tuesday 7th of January | First day of term |

**Please remember…**

The weather is changing and children will need warm waterproof coats, a hat and gloves. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate footwear: wellies can be kept in a bag on pegs for rainy days (don’t forget to write your child’s name on all clothing).

The Nursery Team,

**Miss George and Mrs Ali**