

Friday 08.09.2022

St James the Great Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you had a lovely summer holiday. We'd like to welcome you all to Nursery and our topic for this half term is 'People Who Help Us'. We will be exploring people who help us in our home, school and community and there is an exciting visit to Peckham Fire Station and a visit by a local Police Officer to look forward to. We will provide more information about this in due course.

Early Reading and Phonics

On Mondays and Fridays, your child can choose a book from our reading corner with you to take home and share together. The Nursery classroom will be open at 8:40 a.m. for you to choose a book with your child. Please remain with your child during this session and write the title of the book, sign it, and draw a smiley face next to it in their reading diary.

One of the ways children learn to read and write is by teaching phonics. The children will be undertaking listening and communication activities such as listening walks and playing sound games. They will be developing awareness of sounds made with instruments and noise makers as well as singing songs and joining in rhyming activities as part of the daily routine in small-group time sessions as this supports the development of key phonic skills.

Collecting your child

We understand that it may be necessary for someone different from your family to collect your child at the end of the day. Please make sure you let us know at the beginning of the nursery session or later if it is an emergency by contacting the office so that we know who will be collecting your child and the connection between the child and the person collecting them. We are unable to let children go home with anyone who has not been named in advance or is not an adult.

Junk modelling

Junk modelling play provides children with the opportunity to explore inventions, innovation and problem-solving through a sense of wonder. As this involves using everyday objects around the house, please could you bring in recyclable materials such as cardboard boxes, yoghurt pots, tubes (kitchen towels), egg cartons.

Spare clothes

As the children undertake messy play, please bring in a bag of spare clothes including underwear for them to change into should they get wet, etc... during their play. This bag will remain in school on their peg unless it needs to be cleaned and replaced.

If there is anything important that you need to discuss with a member of the Nursery Early Years Team then please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Thank you for your support.

The Early Years Team

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Talk about people who help us in our everyday life. Ask questions such as, what do they do to make our life better? How they help us? How they look after us?
- Ask children if they can think of anyone who helps them and make a thank you card.
- Encourage children to think how we can help others.
- Ask children how can we play safely so that we do not need to call emergency service.
- Play together in a collaborative way.

Communication & Language

- Develop everyday vocabulary to communicate their needs and wants (hello, good morning, thank you, please, sorry, I am hungry/thirsty)
- Discuss how to stay safe in the home and when out, stranger danger and car safety.
- Talk about the different emergency services and what their roles are and how we can get them to help us.
- Role play areas – hospital and play situations such as using a toy phone to make emergency calls.

Physical Development

- Developing our GROSS MOTOR SKILLS in our everyday lives – putting on clothing and footwear with support, climbing stairs.
- Using playground equipment safely and correctly Fine Motor Skills
- Developing our FINE MOTOR SKILLS such as mark making using tools (pencils, scissors, tongs, paintbrushes, tuning pages in a book)

People Who Help



Understanding The World

- Identify people who help us in our home, school and community.
- Visit to the Peckham fire station and visit by a local Police to our class.
- Developing awareness of passing of time using the visual timetable
- Exploring the changing seasons through local walks
- Role-play areas – home area and hospital

Maths

- Exploring shapes and pattern through play
- Use number names and number language in play (one train, two tigers, three bananas.)
- Sorting different objects into groups.
- Developing mathematical vocabulary related to measure – size, capacity, time, length, height
- Learning a sequence of events with cooking school (first, then...)

Literacy

- Encourage reading for pleasure (carpet time, library, at home with parents).
- Singing songs and action rhymes.
- Giving meaning to marks as we draw and, paint.
- Begin to recognise our first names.
- Making 'thank you' cards to someone who has helped us.
- Developing phonics skills by discerning sounds such as listening walks and playing sound games.

Expressive Art & Design

- Dancing and singing with percussion instruments.
- Painting and drawing such as people who help us, animals in the stories that we have read
- Junk modelling .
- Role-play of people who can help us.
- Making displays related to Jackson Pollock – exploring splatter painting