



Foundation Curriculum Newsletter








Term 1- 'Marvellous Me'

September 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to your first Foundation **Curriculum** Newsletter, at Christ Church Primary School, you will receive a newsletter at the start of each new term. The purpose of these termly curriculum newsletters is to give you a brief outline of the learning activities each year group is doing each term. You can find copies of all our curriculum newsletters on our school website, in the Foundation Stage lobby and on the notice board by the steps up to the main school reception area.

The curriculum within the Early Years Foundation Stage is planned around seven areas of Learning and Development:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Communication and Language	Physical Development	Literacy	Mathematics	Knowledge and Understanding of the World	Expressive Arts and Design
						

The seven areas are further divided into strands and children's progression is recorded in their individual learning journals. The accompanying Curriculum Overview (puzzle shape) shows some of the things we will be focussing on in each of these areas over the term.

In Foundation Stage we use the children's interests to plan our topics and the children are closely involved with this process. We talk about being 'Learning Explorers' and call our self-directed learning time 'Go Explore!' During this time the children will access continuous provision designed to support them develop their skills in areas of the Early Years curriculum. As our learning progresses we discuss ideas and record them in a class planning book. You will find photographs of the children on their learning journey in the main foundation lobby outside Hedgehogs classroom and we will add to this throughout the year. All the children freely explore our many inside and outside learning activities and are encouraged to try new things during 'Go Explore!' The children are also taught in focussed whole class sessions, small groups and in one-to-one sessions throughout the school day.

Parent/Carer Helpers

Once the children have settled, we would be delighted to welcome parent/carer helpers in to join us in the Foundation team. We **really** value the time and help parents give at school. If you are interested in helping then please let us know and we can give you further information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Foundation Stage Outdoor Area

We are developing our Foundation Stage outdoor area which is the concrete quad between our classes. We are lucky that we have a large space and that we have a cover so we can use it all year round. This space is our outdoor classroom and gives children the opportunity to learn outside and develop skills that would be very difficult to work on inside. This year we aim to make a 'green' area with plants growing for the children to nurture and also to create spaces to play in imaginatively with small world etc. As a part of this we would like to grow plants in **crocs** and **wellies** so if you have any that you have outgrown we would be grateful if you could send them our way please. If they were already planted that would be brilliant! ***If you have any gardening expertise, plant knowledge or***

design ideas and skills please share them with us- we would be very grateful for your ideas, time or donations to improve the space.

Show and Tell

At Christ Church School we do not permit children to bring toys into school (except in exceptional circumstances which can be negotiated with your child's class teacher). The one exception is children are invited to bring in and share one special birthday present and / or card on their birthdays - these toys will be left on their class teacher's desk during playtimes to ensure safe keeping. We do however always encourage the children to bring in anything related to our current learning to share with the class – this term that could be items related to: autumn / harvest, colours, rhyming stories or games. Also we love to hear about special occasions or achievements and see photographs / certificates / medals etc... Please feel free to encourage your child to bring things in and be prepared to talk about them.

Celebrating

During 'Go Explore!' the children have the opportunity to complete fantastic work for our WOW wall. This is work completed independently by the children during their self-directed learning time. All the children already have something on the wall so the next step is for them all to make something even more fantastic!

We will reward the children with gold stars for their achievements. These will be collected in a gold star book which will then go to Mr Baker and your child will receive a certificate and house points for their house.

Donations

We really appreciate donations to our setting, the following are really helpful.

- **A box of tissues or a pack of wipes** this really helps us through the winter months with lots of noses and hands to wipe
- **Arts and Craft consumables-** items such as: small boxes/tubes, ribbons, pipe cleaners, parcel/masking or sellotape, stickers, coloured paper/card (unfortunately we do not have the storage for large boxes e.g cereal boxes)
- **Planting equipment-** items such as pots, bulbs, seeds, compost, watering cans/tools

Wiltshire Times Starting School Photograph

During this term 'The Wiltshire Times' will be coming to take a photograph of Foundation Stage for their Starting School feature.

If you have any further questions or queries please come and see us. We are thoroughly enjoying our time with your lovely children and feel certain that we have a great year ahead of us.

*Thank you for your support.
Mrs Sarah Robinson and Mrs Lisa Morling,*

Important Dates for the Diary

- Thursday October 4th at 7pm- Phonics and Reading Meeting
- 16th and 18th October- Parent Consultations
- 19th October- Foundation Cake Day- **Please bake as this raises lots of money for resources**
- 19th October End of Term
- 5st November- Next term begins