



We hope you all had a lovely half term break. We are looking forward to a busy half term ahead.

### **RE- Desert to Garden**

In this half term, as we begin Lent and begin to look forward to Easter, our RE theme is 'Desert to Garden'. The children will hear and learn about the stories of Jesus in the desert, Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and Death on the Cross and Resurrection. They will learn about Lent as a time when we prepare and get ready for Easter.

This is a time when we reflect on our lives and on how the things we do affect the lives of others. It is difficult for young children to realise that we are all capable of hurting others and to know that when we do so we should feel sorry and try to be kind.

They will begin to understand that Jesus forgave those who hurt him and teaches us to forgive people who hurt us.

At home you can help by:

- Encouraging your child to recognise when they have hurt someone. It is particularly difficult for young children to grasp the idea that someone's *feelings* can be hurt.
- Giving gentle reminders to say sorry in times of conflict, taking time to talk things over quietly so that your child thinks about what has happened.
- Encouraging your child to give some small gift to a charitable cause and explain to them what the charity does to help people.
- Going to Sunday Mass. Mass at All Saints Church (Saturday evening 5pm or Sunday 9.30am.) At Sunday morning Mass there is also Little Church that the children can go to and listen to the Gospel with their friends. We would love to see you!

### **Prayer Bear**

Prayer Bear has returned! As you know, he is very good at listening and likes to pray with the whole family. Please use the little book to draw and write what you have done with Prayer Bear. Remember this should be about the prayers you said with Prayer Bear. Please return the bag and everything in it to school after you have finished, so that another child can take him home.

### **Our theme this half term is Adventure Above and Under the Clouds**

As part of this topic, we will be exploring -What can we find beyond the sky? What's in Space and how will we get there? We will also be finding out about - Which planet do we live on? What makes Earth special?

### **Peek into the past**

This half term we will also be exploring our history topic, 'Peek into the past'. The children will reflect on memories and experiences from their own past. **For our lessons we need a photograph of your child as a baby and one as a toddler.** Please can you send the photographs on Tapestry as soon as possible.

### **Farm Visit**

We are awaiting confirmation of our class trip to Smithills Open Farm. As soon as we receive confirmation of this, we let you know. Any parents/carers who are able to help (once you know the date), please let one of the Reception staff know.

Your child will be required to wear their school uniform polo top and jumper/cardigan so that they can be easily identified at the farm. However, they can wear leggings/shorts/tracksuit bottoms with sensible footwear. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather, i.e. – sun hat & sun cream or rain coat & wellingtons!

If your child has a universal free school meal, a school packed lunch will be provided. However, if you wish to provide your child with a packed lunch, please let a member of staff know.

### **Lenten Challenge**

Our Lenten Challenge will take place on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**. We will be holding a 'scooter/ bike wash and ride' in exchange for £2. The children will be able to bring their bike/scooter to school and will bring them home lovely and clean!

### **Mother's Day Event**

We would like to invite all our wonderful Mothers and Grandmas to our Mother's Day assembly on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 9:15am**. We will prepare a sign-up list soon for you to let us know if you can join us.

### **Our Making Area**

Please continue to bring in any unwanted clean boxes and cardboard tubes (no toilet rolls please) for this area.

### **Reading Books**

Please ensure your child has their reading book and reading record in their book bag every day.

As always, please ensure that your child's clothes / jumpers are clearly labelled.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch. Many thanks for your wonderful support.

Mrs Murphy, Mrs Flanagan, Mrs Valentine and Miss Smallman.