

Communication and language (Prime)

We will be having lots of circle time sessions where we will be getting to know each other for example sharing names, families, likes and dislikes. Your children will take part in lots of listening and attention games. We will be reading lots of stories and we will be retelling these through role play and props. We will also talk about what kinds of food we like and we will taste some autumn vegetables.

What you can do to help?

Talk to your child about what they have done at school. Sing simple nursery rhymes and songs with your child.
Have a look at the nursery notice board so you know some of the learning that is taking place.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (Prime)

A main focus this half term will be settling in and getting to know our new friends and staff. The children will get to know the rules within nursery, such as sharing and taking turns and remembering to tidy up our toys before we move to the next activity. We will talk about ourselves and what makes us special. We will also share ideas and discuss our similarities and differences. We will spend this half term supporting the children in their toileting and handwashing routines.

What you can do to help?

Encourage your children to make sure that they look after their own toys at home and help to tidy up before bedtime. Play turn taking games with your child. Support your child with all aspects of independence e.g. going to the toilet by themselves and washing their hands, putting their own uniform on. Talk to your children about making healthy choices.

Maths (Specific)



We will learn a variety of number rhymes including 5 little monkeys jumping on the bed and 5 little ducks.

We will take part in a variety of number hunts both inside and outside and we will concentrate on becoming confident with recognising, counting and ordering numbers up to 3 and then 6.

We will look at 2D shapes and positional language within our play.

What can you do to help?

Count in lots of different contexts with your child such as count the stairs, count the buttons on a coat, count the fruit in the fruit bowl.

Physical Development (Prime)

We will be encouraging the children to put their wellies, shoes and coats on independently. We will also be weeding our vegetable patch to plant some Autumn vegetables using the gardening equipment. We will also take part in a P.E. session on a Friday where we will be developing our balancing and co-ordination skills.

What you can do to help?

Please make sure that all of your children's clothing and belongings are labelled. Support your child in fastening the zips and buttons on their coat and the Velcro on their shoes.

St Thomas the Martyr Nursery Autumn 1- Marvellous Me!

Expressive arts and Design (Specific)

We will be listening to and moving to a variety of music. We will experiment with colour and we will participate in lots of role play both indoors and outdoors. **What can you do to help?**
Encourage your child to create and make things at home, talk to them about what they have drawn or made. Join in with your child as they are singing songs.

Understanding the world (specific)

We will spend lots of time engaging in our new environment, mixing with our nursery and reception friends and exploring the small world play. We will have the opportunity to use the school Ipads and we will be introduced to the talking tins.

What can you do to help?

Go on an autumn walk and try to spot signs of autumn and share these with nursery.

Literacy (Specific)

Your child will have a daily phonics session where they will start to learn about the sounds in the environment and they will make a variety of sounds and noises. The children will take part in finger gym activities to develop their finger strength and they will be encouraged them to make marks and talk about them.

We will share a number of stories with your children.

What can you do to help?

If you would like your child to take home a book from our library so you can share it with them, then please send in a book bag every Friday.

Please take the time to look at the book swap box in the cloakroom area, these books can be loaned at any time.

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to be back in school following the summer holidays. We hope that you have had a great time making lots of memories.

We are excited to invite you to bring your child into nursery each morning, help them to put their coats on their pegs before helping them to recognise their names and post them in the post box on the nursery carpet. Once your child is settled in the nursery, please say your goodbyes and we will see you at the end of the session. Please make sure that once your child is in nursery they are NOT encouraged to return back to the cloakroom - this is for safeguarding reasons. If you have any brief messages that you would like to pass on, then please do so in the morning. However if you require a longer conversation, then can you please either ring school to make an appointment or speak to me at the end of your child's session. The start of the school day can be quite hectic!

We will be continuing to encourage the children and staff to regularly wash their hands and we hope that you continue to support school by ensuring that your child stays at home if they are unwell.

Please find attached a copy of some of the skills and activities that we will be looking at providing for your child over this half term, however these may change as we get to know your children more and the activities will be adapted to meet their interests.

Please can you ensure that all of your children have a change of clothes, which can be left on their pegs just in case they are needed. Please can you check that you have clearly labelled all items of your child's clothing including their shoes and coats. If you have not already done so can you please provide your child with a pair of named wellies, which will stay under their peg in school as the children do go out in all weathers. If you are happy to provide your child with their own waterproof suit then please hand it to a member of staff with your child's name in it.

The noticeboard in the nursery entrance will keep you updated with upcoming events as well as the activities that the children will be encouraged to take part in. If there is anything that you see on the board that you are unsure of, or would like more information on, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

Snack Money

In line with the rest of the school a small charge will be required for the children to access our snack area. The children have access to 'rolling' snack where they can access milk, water fruit and a daily snack such as toast, yoghurts, rice cakes. We ask that all families pay £6.00 per half term. Please note at the moment we are currently asking for this to be paid in cash, but we are looking to have a

payment option on the school app to make this easier. Please can all snack money be paid no later than Friday 15th September. If you would prefer to pay per term then the cost is £12.00 per term and £36.00 for the full year. Please check the children's notice board to find out the snack that is on offer. Please make sure that you let us know of any allergies that your child has and any suggestions for food that we can offer. Children will have daily access to water, milk and fruit. They do NOT need to bring in any water bottles, we will be encouraging your children to pour their own drinks in order to develop their independence.

P.E.

Nursery children will take part in a PE session every Friday morning. At the moment the children will only need to take off their shoes and socks in order to take part. When the children require a P.E. kit or a change of clothes/shoes I will let you know.

Forest Schools

Once the children have settled into a routine we will start our weekly forest school sessions. On this day we encourage you to send your child in lots of layers of clothing to ensure that they stay warm whilst in the forest. Please remember we will be encouraging the children to take risks, get messy and explore nature so don't send them in any special clothes! Further information will follow.

Forms

Please can you ensure that you have completed all the forms provided prior to the summer holidays and return them to school ASAP. If you have misplaced your forms, then please let me know and I can send home new ones.

Seesaw

I have sent a 'seesaw' invite to all parents whom I have email addresses for, if you have not yet received an invite, then please let me know. You will be able to receive photographs of your child's learning as well as being able to receive messages. Please remember you can take your own photographs and upload them so we can see the fun they are having at home.

If you have any questions or concerns, then please do not hesitate to contact me on 01695 622970 or s.christy@st-thomasmartyr.lancs.sch.uk

We look forward to sharing our experiences with you and your family.

Thank you

Mrs Christy, Mrs Hallam and Mrs Bowley

Dates for the diary

Monday 11th September - Yogi Yoga Day - children are to come into school in sports clothes and trainers

Wednesday 20th September - National Fitness Day

Friday 29th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning at 9am.

Wednesday 11th October and Wednesday 18th October - parents evening - This will last no longer than 10 minutes per appointment and times will be available on the school app nearer the time. Please make sure you sign up for an appointment. If you have any questions or concerns before this date, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

Saturday 14th October - Open morning - Please share this open morning with any friends or family who are looking for a school place. Please feel free to come and visit with your child too.

Friday 20th October - school closes for half term

Monday 30th October - school opens for half term

Monday 6th November - Individual school photos - If your child has a sibling who doesn't attend our school and you would like to have a family photo then please arrive at the main entrance at 8.30am.

Christmas Celebration Dates - Further information will follow.

Thursday 7th December - Christmas jumper day

Thursday 14th December - EYFS nativity @ 10.30am

Friday 15th December - EYFS nativity @ 10.30am

Tuesday 19th December - Breakfast with Santa

Tuesday 19th December - Nursery Christmas party

Wednesday 20th December - last day for nursery

Thursday 21st December - school closes at 2pm

Monday 8th January - school opens

