**Reception Discovery Newsletter Autumn 2019**

Welcome to your child’s very exciting first school year at Hoole St Michael. It has been lovely starting to get to know your child. We have been extremely impressed with how well your child has settled; so grown up and ready to learn.

This half term our topics will be ‘Marvellous Me’ and ‘Dear Zoo’

  

Our topic web can be viewed on the school website under Classes

 Discovery-what’s new?

**The Early Years Curriculum:**

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development:**

As the children enter this new social environment, they are encouraged to make new friends, to share and to take turns. The children will be encouraged to become independent learners in the classroom and this includes becoming familiar with classroom routines.

**Communication and language development:**

We will be giving your child opportunities to speak and listen in a range of situations and to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves.

**Physical development:**

During the year, we will be providing opportunities for your child to be active and interactive, and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. We will help your child to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

**Literacy – Reading:**

At Hoole St. Michael, we want to develop a love for reading right from the very start of your child’s time with us. Reading activities will take place daily: activities will be set in the continuous provision, stories will be shared and your child can read in the reading area. Your child will be heard to read on both on a 1:1 basis and also in a guided reading group. Children will always benefit from listening to grown-ups reading. This is where we really hope to foster a love of reading and enthuse your child. Reading for pleasure will be taught through your child listening to stories, poems, non-fiction texts, rhymes and fairy/traditional tales. There’s nothing better than listening to a good story or poem, perfect for bed-time chilling out time!

We ask that your child reads every night and that you record this in the reading record book. Please write a positive comment which we can re-iterate with your child. Then, add any additional comments you wish for us to see about your child’s reading e.g. If you think your child needs to re-read this book; if there are any words your child has had difficulty with. **It is vital that your child reads every day at home**.

**Phonics:**

We will be beginning our daily phonics lessons next week. Each week we will be sending sound folder homework linked to the graphemes taught. For additional information on what phonics is see <https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-are-phonics-phases>

The following websites may also be of interest to you : <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ChildrensMenu.htm> <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>

**Writing:**

Through our phonics and guided group time, we will teach your child how to form letters correctly, write simple labels and captions. They will use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. We love watching children’s writing emerge over the year!

**Maths:**

In Reception, the focus within mathematics is to is to ensure that all children develop firm mathematical foundations in a way that is engaging, and appropriate for their age. We will be using Numberblocks and White Rose materials working with numbers your child is familiar with getting them to have a deeper understanding of number; it is vital that your child gains this deep understanding to assist your child as they progress through the school. Here is a link to the Number Blocks series :<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/search?q=numberblocks&sa_f=search-product>

**Homework: EYFS Reception**

As per our homework policy, which can be viewed on our website, homework for Reception should take no longer than 1 hour per week. It will consist of:

* daily home reading book
* weekly ‘tricky’ word activities (linked to phonics phases) with a sound folder containing the week’s graphemes or spelling related work
* Termly Homework Grid linked to the EYFS curriculum

**P.E : Please ensure your child has their labelled PE kit in school.**

* **Tuesday : Orienteering** taught by South Ribble sports coaches.
* **Daily :** Daily 10 minute **run**

**Forest Schools** – Forest school sessions will be starting soon. These sessions will be on Monday afternoons

As always, our door is always open and you are welcome to come and speak with us. Our Class Dojo is frequently checked and any messages answered as quickly as we possibly can.

We are looking forward to working together with your children and yourselves this year!

 Mrs Mesghali, Mrs Lever and Team Endeavour!