

# Curriculum Newsletter

## Reception Autumn Term 2



### Salaams Parents/ Carers

Welcome to the Early Years Team! We have a fun and exciting half-term ahead as we start our learning journey. Teaching in Early Years this year are: Mrs Aksouh, Mrs Al Sader, Mrs Navazi, Mrs Gulamali and Mrs Merali. Our talented team will ensure all children have a happy and successful transition into their classes: Al Haqq and An Noor.

### Value: Respect



This half term we will be focusing on the value of respect. Children will reflect and discuss how we show respect to Allah, ourselves, our parents, our teachers, our siblings, our friends, others, our environment, etc., through stories of the Prophet Muhammad (saw), teachings from the Holy Quran and opportunities to put their learning into practice. Some verses we may be discussing include: 8:11; 17:23; 17:26; 17:53; 29:8.

## Here is a breakdown the Early Learning Goals and Phonics which will be covered this half-term:

### Phonics/ Early Reading

The children will be learning the sound and action for the Phase 2 graphemes ( ff, ll, ss, j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th, ng, nk ).

They will also practise writing these graphemes.

Furthermore, they will identify the first sound in a word and learn the following high-frequency words by heart:

put, pull, full, as, and, has, his, her, go, no, to, into, she, push, he, of, we, me, be

Children will receive a phonics reading book every Monday which will be changed the following Monday. Please ensure the book is in their bag every day to be read at school. Children are encouraged to read at home every day to build their decoding skills.

### Literacy

The children will be joining in on story time where they will learn how to sit and focus on a story and to participate in class discussions.

In addition to this, children will start recognising their name and familiar words and to practise mark making and explaining their work.

We will be exploring a range of texts including:

- Pingu (animation)
- Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers
- The Gingerbread Man (story telling – Traditional tale)
- 100 Decker Bus by Mark Smith



### Communication & Language

As the children adapt to their new environment, we will be working on their listening and speaking skills, developing increased concentration throughout the process. They will begin to learn how to listen attentively in class through one-to-one, small groups and whole class discussions. The children will practice how to take turns in speaking and listening, how to offer their own ideas, how to face their partner during one-to-one discussions and how to raise their hands when answering and asking questions.

As part of their learning journey, the children will also learn all about the class and school rules. Part of developing good communication and listening skills is being aware of boundaries and behavior expectations in the school setting.

### Understanding of the World

This term, children will explore the concept of people who assist us, such as families, police officers, firefighters, and teachers. They will learn about the roles these individuals play in their professions and the ways they contribute to society. Additionally, we will examine maps to gain a better understanding of our location in the world. This will help build their spatial awareness and geographical knowledge, making them more connected to their environment. Furthermore, children will delve into technology—discovering its purpose, why people use it, and how to use it safely.

### Personal Social and Emotional Development

In Autumn 2 our core value is Respect. The children will learn to celebrate their differences as well as be able to identify their talents and to talk about what they're good at to help them realise why they are special. The children will also be learning about making friends, how to deal with misunderstandings and how to navigate those friendships.

### Mathematics

The children will continue to develop a range of mathematical skills in the Autumn term. We will begin by reviewing and consolidating our prior learning of 2D shapes. We will then look at representing, subitising and composing numbers 1-5 as well as finding 1 more and 1 less. Children are introduced to the idea that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers, and these are referred to as the parts of the number. Learning to see a whole number and its parts at the same time is a key development in children's number understanding.

We will give children practical opportunities to explore a range of ways to partition a whole number, so they can find different parts which make the same whole.

### Physical Development

The children will be developing their fine motor skills through threading, cutting, drawing, painting and building. As they work their hand and finger muscles, they will begin to develop the correct pencil grip which will aid them in forming their numbers and letters correctly.

To develop the children's gross motor skills, they will have opportunities to play with large outdoor equipment such as bicycles, scooters, large building blocks/plants, climbing and playing ball games.

- P.E. days will be every Thursday. Please come to school dressed in your P.E. kit.

### Expressive Arts and Design

As part of their creative learning, children will develop the skills to improve their mark making. Children will experiment with different media and types of lines.

Alma Thomas: Children will collect and create a piece inspired by the focus artist.

### Religious Education

This half term, we will be focusing on the big question:  
*What is interesting about the story of Prophet Isa?*

We will explore the values of the Prophet Isa (as) through stories about him and compare these to Prophet Muhammad. In addition to this, we will learn about Lady Maryam and talk about why she is special and understand why Christians celebrate Christmas.

### Music

The children will be developing skills in listening, reflecting, composition and performance. We will focus on the concept of 'structure' within music, recognising the chorus in a familiar song, through the nasheed, 'We love Muhammad' by Noor Sadeh.

Reflecting on the lyrics of the nasheed we will make links with the Quranic verse 3:31

قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ

*Qul in kuntum tuhibboonallaha fatabioo'nii yhibbukumullahu wa yaghfirlakum dhunoobakum, wallahu ghafoorur Raheem.*

"Say, (Oh Muhammad) 'If you love Allah follow me; Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. Allah is Forgiving, Merciful."

### Arabic

The children will learn how to recognize, read, write and pronounce the next letters of the Arabic Alphabet (ح خ د ذ) as well as a variety of vocabulary that incorporates these letters. They will also develop their vocabulary of numbers 1-10.

### Use of Tapestry

In order to build your child's learning journal, we will be weaving together the learning that happens at home and in the setting over time.

Observations of the children's learning throughout the day will be uploaded on Tapestry in the form of photos and/or videos, alongside a description of the learning taking place. Flags outlining the specific area of learning will also be attached to the observation. This includes individual and group activities and, in some cases, whole class learning. Families are encouraged to upload observations of what their child does over the weekend or holidays.

Homework will be uploaded on a half termly basis, and phonics on a weekly basis. If there are any additional updates, they will also be uploaded on Tapestry.

### Enrichment Opportunities

This half term, the children will be making gingerbread men as part of their traditional tale in Drawing Club. They will also learn all about people who help us with a visit from the Fire brigade. Additionally, the children will have a live storytelling session a member of All Saints Church, linking with our R.E. learning.

[All contributions/ payments and consents to be completed using Arbor](#)