

WELCOME TO BLESSED ROBERT WIDMERPOOL FOUNDATION STAGE!



DIARY DATES

- **WHOLE SCHOOL HARVEST MASS THURSDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2PM**
- **HALF TERM WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER**
- **FOUNDATION STAGE VISIT TO NOTTINGHAM CASTLE—WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER - MORE DETAILS NEARER THE TIME**
- **FS1 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2.45PM**
- **FS2 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2.45PM**
- **WHOLE SCHOOL ADVENT MASS THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER**

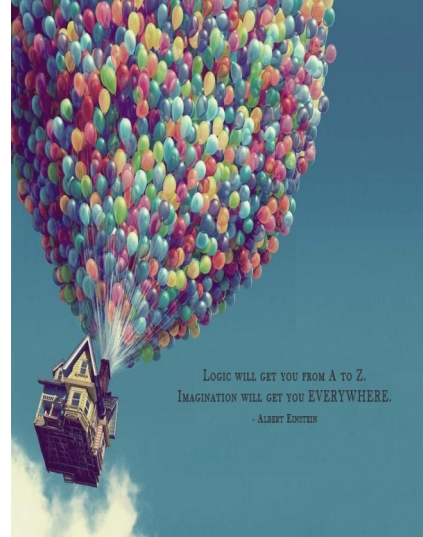
OTHER INFORMATION

- **WE ASK FOR A CONTRIBUTION OF £2 PER TERM PER CHILD TO COVER THE COST OF ITEMS SUCH AS COOKING INGREDIENTS. PLEASE BRING THIS IN ASAP IN AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON IT.**
- **P.E IS EVERY MONDAY. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD ALWAYS HAS CORRECT KIT IN SCHOOL.**
- **LIBRARY BOOKS ARE CHANGED EVERY**

Miss Chapman, Miss Lancashire and all of the staff in the Foundation Stage offer a very warm welcome to both our new and existing children this September. 2016-2017 is the time to

Imagine, Invent and Inspire!

This is the basis on which we will plan meaningful and aspirational learning opportunities for your child and foster the awe and wonder each child has within them. There will be an opportunity for every child to take home the 'Creation Station' this year. This is your child's chance to imagine and invent something wonderful at home and share this in school to inspire others! In addition, we will be visiting Nottingham Castle where we will experience a first visit to an art gallery.



Our over-arching theme in the Foundation Stage this term is 'Celebrating Me!' We will be encouraging each child to find out more about themselves and to celebrate all of the wonderful and unique gifts and talents they have to offer.

At the heart of our learning at the beginning of this term is:

- **Myself**—where children will consider the importance of their name and that God loves each of us and knows each of us by name.



Through this, we will be using the tools and media available in our Creative Corners both indoors and outdoors to make self-portraits. A hospital role play area will provide the context for investigating bodies by looking at skeletons and shadows and exploring the world around us using each of our 5 senses.

We will use a variety of non-fiction texts to find out about more about ourselves and our bodies and will learn about the key features of these text types. The Gingerbread Man will be our main fiction text of the term; the children will investigate the body of a gingerbread man and compare it with their own, write recipes on how to make gingerbread men and use these recipes to actually make and bake their very own gingerbread

P.E sessions will be focused around children exploring what their bodies can do and how they move on apparatus. We will be using the Write Dance programme with children during some P.E sessions to promote the development of mark making and writing through physical movement and practising gross and fine motor skills. Linking to our physical development, we will be thinking about how we can look after our bodies and talking about the importance of a healthy life-style. A healthy food shop will provide the context for this where children will have the opportunity to investigate different foods for a healthy lifestyle, make posters and use the language of money.



The children will practise ordering and comparing skills by ordering themselves by height and measuring hand span widths.

Following on from this, the focus of learning will evolve onto

- Welcome - know that Baptism is a welcome into God's family. We will be ensuring that your child feels welcome in their class group, knows what it means to welcome and belong to the church family.

We will be exploring how we can make sure people feel welcome in a variety of ways, particularly in our class environment where we will focus on being a kind friend.

Children will learn about the sacrament of Baptism through our church role play area and write Baptism certificates to each other. They will have opportunities to share their own experiences of Baptisms they may have been a part of.

Leading on from this, we will think about how different communities and cultures may welcome people and children will be encouraged to compare and contrast a variety of cultural traditions linked to welcoming new members of the community. We will explore different cultural foods and children will be invited to bring in and share a food dish linked to their home



American Vice President Joe Biden dips a piece of bread in salt as part of a welcoming ceremony upon his arrival in Kiev, Ukraine, July 20, 2009.

Finally, we will end the term by thinking about some of the special times we celebrate with the focus of learning being on -

- Advent and The Birth of Jesus - we will be looking forward to Jesus' birthday and exploring how people prepare for and celebrate Jesus' birthday. There will be a focus on understanding the Advent wreath and knowing the nativity story.

The main focus during this part of the term will be finding out about Christmas through Bible stories, ICT and role-play. The children's confidence and speaking and listening skills will be developed through preparing and participating in a special Christmas performance. They will write labels and gift tags for presents in Santa's Workshop and read recipes on how to make Christmas cake. During December, we will use Advent calendars to practise counting down to Christmas Day and putting the numbers on the calendar in the correct order. We will use our measuring skills to weigh out ingredients for Christmas cakes.

**Logic will get you
from A to B.
Imagination will
take you everywhere**

- Albert Einstein

Useful websites and apps linked to all of the themes covered this term can be found on the blog at brwacademy.com.

As usual, Forest School sessions at Glapton Wood led by both Miss Chapman and Miss Lancashire will continue to run for all FS2 children and for the older children in FS1 this term. The younger children in FS1 will join in later during the year once they are settled within the Unit.

Forest Schools is a unique and powerful opportunity for children to develop their relationships, resourcefulness, resilience and their ability to reflect in an outdoor, open-ended environment.

There will be more detailed information nearer the start date.



PLEASE COME AND TALK TO US ABOUT ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THIS BUSY AND EXCITING TERM!

