



Curriculum Newsletter - September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to St Monica's. Each term, you will receive a Curriculum Newsletter outlining what your child will be learning about. Below is a list of what we will be covering in Religious Education and the seven areas of Early Learning. Our topics for this term are called 'All About Me' and 'Autumn'.

**Religious Education**

**Key vocabulary: God, Bible, pray, Creation, Baptism, oil, priest, Advent, preparation**

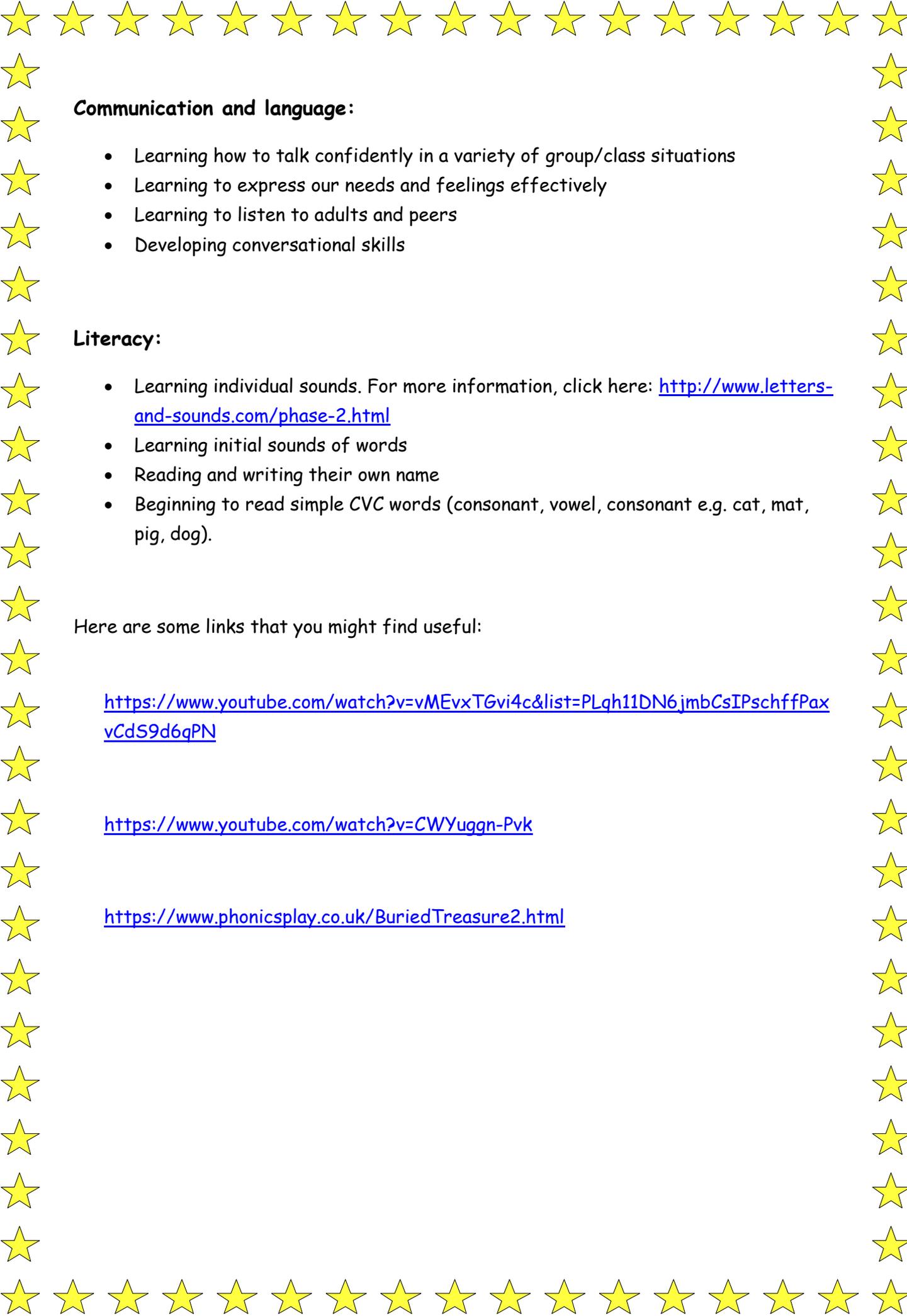
- Learning how to make the sign of the cross
- Learning the daily prayers said at school
- Learning about our beginnings with God i.e. Baptism, starting at a Catholic school etc
- The Creation story
- The Rosary (October)
- How the Church prepares for Christmas
- The Nativity

**Personal Social and Emotional development:**

- Introducing and following school and class rules
- Looking at differences/similarities between each other
- Learning about respecting others
- Learning the importance of taking turns and sharing
- Developing confidence and self-esteem

**Physical development:**

- Learning how to control our bodies and coordinate small (e.g. drawing a circle or writing some letters from the alphabet) and large movements (e.g. throwing and catching a ball)
- Practising dressing/undressing
- Learning about hygiene



**Communication and language:**

- Learning how to talk confidently in a variety of group/class situations
- Learning to express our needs and feelings effectively
- Learning to listen to adults and peers
- Developing conversational skills

**Literacy:**

- Learning individual sounds. For more information, click here: <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-2.html>
- Learning initial sounds of words
- Reading and writing their own name
- Beginning to read simple CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant e.g. cat, mat, pig, dog).

Here are some links that you might find useful:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMEvxTGvi4c&list=PLqh11DN6jmbCsIPschffPaxvCdS9d6qPN>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWYuggn-Pvk>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html>

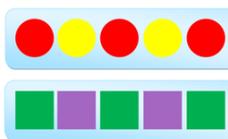
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**Mathematics:**

- Recognising, counting and writing numbers to 10 (you might find this maths link useful: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting> )
- Recognising and extending shape patterns e.g.



- Estimating a number of objects and then checking by counting
- Sorting: Children will focus on similarities and differences in sets of objects found in the classroom. They will sort objects into two groups based on size, colour and shape.
- Comparing groups: Children will compare groups of identical objects using the language more, fewer and less.
- Change within 5: Children will learn about one more within 5. They will use role play and first, then, now story structures to explore adding one more. Children will learn to recognise that the next number they count is one more than the previous number.
- Time: Children will be introduced to the concept of times of the day and the order of events in a day. They will begin to order familiar events using clues from pictures and will be introduced to the idea that the clock tells the time of the day, without having to read the clock.

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**Understanding the world:**

- Learning about Harvest Festival
- Learning about another faith (Hinduism - with a focus on Diwali)
- Looking at the differences between the four seasons
- Encouraging the children to use and recognise a variety of technology e.g. laptops, cameras, iPads and the interactive whiteboard

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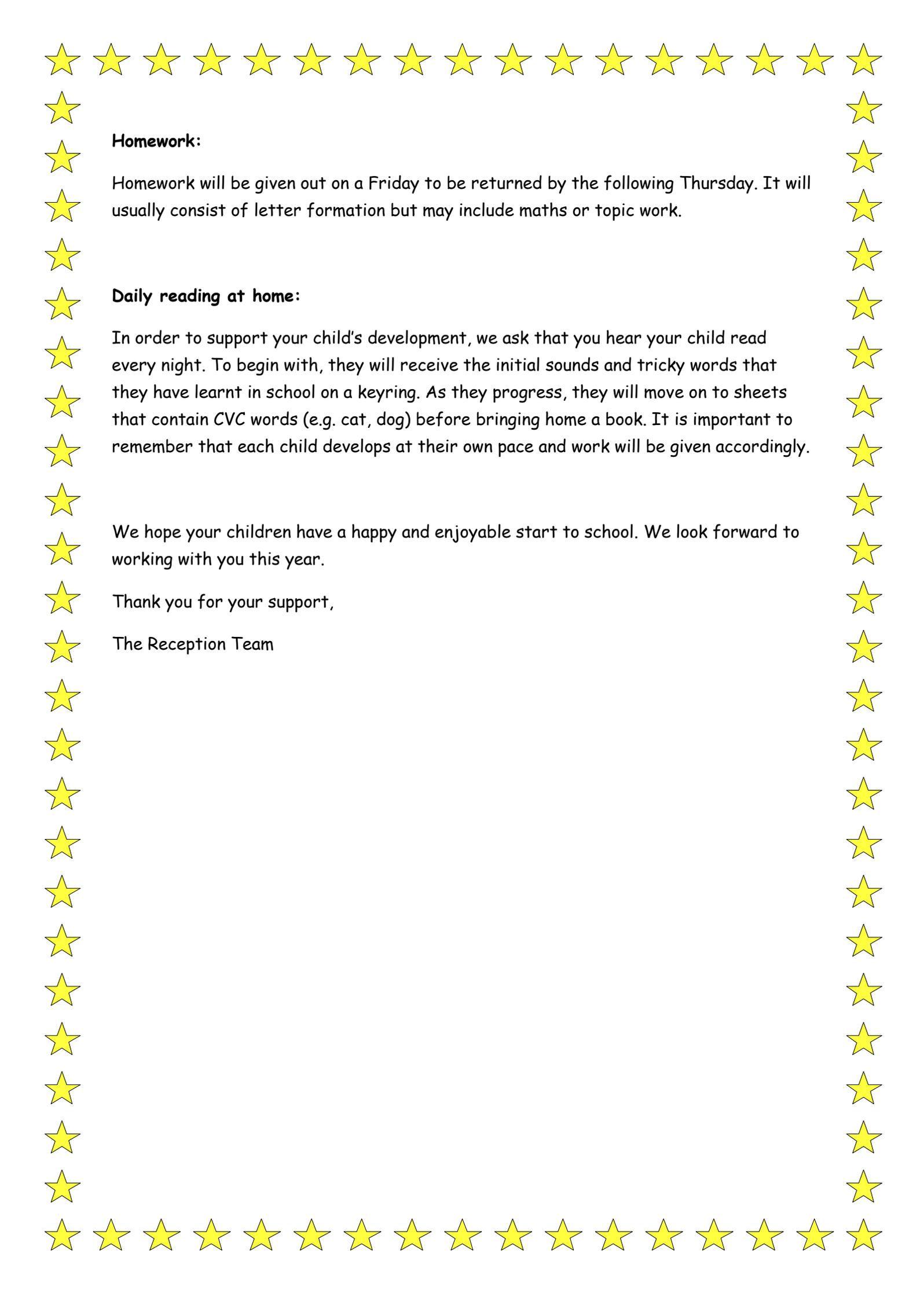
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**Expressive arts and design**

- Learning and singing simple songs
  - Thinking about what we look like and painting self portraits
  - Encouraging role-play and the use of expressive language
  - Developing the ability to select a variety of resources when creating artwork
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**Homework:**

Homework will be given out on a Friday to be returned by the following Thursday. It will usually consist of letter formation but may include maths or topic work.

**Daily reading at home:**

In order to support your child's development, we ask that you hear your child read every night. To begin with, they will receive the initial sounds and tricky words that they have learnt in school on a keyring. As they progress, they will move on to sheets that contain CVC words (e.g. cat, dog) before bringing home a book. It is important to remember that each child develops at their own pace and work will be given accordingly.

We hope your children have a happy and enjoyable start to school. We look forward to working with you this year.

Thank you for your support,

The Reception Team