

Reception Newsletter

Spring 2019

Welcome to the second Reception newsletter of the year! We hope that it will give you a little insight into what the children will be learning across all the areas of the curriculum over the course of the next term. Towards the end of the newsletter you will find reminders or further details about school activities and events.

The children in Reception continue to impress us all with how they have settled into school. Their fantastic behaviour and attitude to learning makes the Reception Team proud on a daily basis! We had a great first term and the children had lots of fun; we can't wait to get going this term!

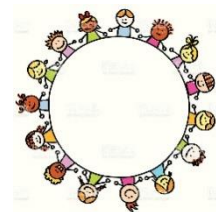
As you may remember; this year we have decided to teach according to the children's interests. Last term, this led us to learn about nocturnal animals, people who help us, construction as well as many other wonderful things. We look forward to where this term will take us and we have already got stuck in with the children's interest of Space!



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children are beginning to form great relationships with one another and the adults across the year group. We will continue to support the children in sharing, taking turns and resolving conflicts. The children will also be reflecting on themselves, the things that they are good at and setting themselves goals.

We will continue to reinforce our school rules and reminding the children how to keep these rules when they are learning and playing.



Communication and Language

The children are continuing to learn how to be a good listener in different situations including whole group and one to one interactions. They will be partaking in regular Circle Times where they will be encouraged to talk about themselves and their experiences, as well as listen to others. They will be given lots of opportunities to speak, widen their vocabulary and encouraged to use the correct tense.



Physical Development

The children will continue to take part in a weekly P.E. session; this will continue to be on a Friday. Thank you to those parents who send their children in wearing their P.E. kit. This has been a big success as it allows the children more time to participate in their P.E. session. This term the children will mainly be working on coordination and using small equipment.

As well as their P.E. session, the children work on their physical skills every day. The children are able to access the outdoor equipment throughout the day and they will be taking part in lots of fine motor activities to develop the strength and control needed to hold a pencil effectively for writing.



Literacy

The children will be taking part in daily Phonics sessions. Here they will be learning a new sound whether these are individual or digraphs (two letters that make one sound, for example 'sh'). The children will be using this knowledge to hear sounds in words and attempt to write them. Some children will even begin to write simple sentences using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces! As part of our English sessions, children will be reading non-fiction books and attempting to write labels, instructions, letters and simple reports. The children will also continue to learn to tell stories as part of our 'Talk for Writing' sessions. Children will also be able to continually access writing opportunities in the classrooms and in the outside environment.



Mathematics

The children will continue to partake in a daily Maths session. This term we will carry on practicing accurate counting, number recognition and begin to apply these skills in basic addition and subtraction problems. The children will be using 2D shapes for activities and be learning the names and properties of 3D shapes, too! We will be exploring measurement; with a particular focus on weight and capacity.



Understanding of the World

The children will continue to learn about the world around them as part of our Outdoor Explorer sessions. We will also be learning about different cultures and will be celebrating Chinese New Year and of course, Easter.

In technology, we will continue to use programs on the iPads and classroom computers safely.



Expressive Arts and Design

The children will continue to access our many creative areas around Early Years where they are able to use a range of materials and tools to create anything their hearts desire! We will also be teaching skills such as colour mixing, sketching and model making.

The children will continue to learn new songs and exploring the sounds made by a variety of instruments as well as roleplaying well known stories.

Homework

The children will take home weekly homework on a Thursday. Homework is a great way for children to practise the skills that they are learning at school so please encourage your child to complete it every week. Please ensure their homework books are returned by the following Monday.

Home readers

Please ensure that you read with your children regularly. When you do it would be really helpful if you could write a comment in their home reader book. Keep practising their key words too. We have noticed that some of these key word cards are not in home reader packs; if these have gone astray please do let us know and we can replace them.

We regularly use apps to enhance the children's learning at school. We thought it might be helpful for you to use them with your children at home!

- Cbeebies - Get Creative, Playtime Island, Storytime **free**
- Hairy Letters (sound awareness and letter formation) **free**
 - Forest Phonics (age 4 - 7)
 - Dexteria Fine Motor Skill Development
- Bee-bot (directional language and programming) **free**
 - My Story School eBook Maker (literacy)
 - Little Digits (maths)
 - EduGuru Maths Games Age 3-5

Dates for the Diary

Monday 21st January - Space Dress Up Day

Wednesday 6th February 6.00-6.30pm - Parents Phonics Information Evening

Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th, Thursday 14th February - Learn Alongside Mornings

Monday 25th February - INSET Day

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day

Wednesday 20th March 8.45am - Parent Panel Meeting

Thursday 28th March - Mother's Day Afternoon

Thank you for your support!

The Reception Team