

Reception Newsletter

Spring 2022

Welcome to the second Reception newsletter of the year. As ever, our children's well-being is at the forefront of everything we do, so our aim is to provide learning that can reflect a largely fun and play based/practical approach. This newsletter will not only inform you of what your children will be doing at school but also give you some ideas on how you can supplement their education at home.

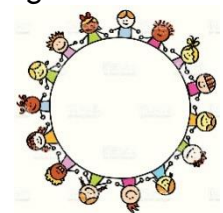


Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During the last term, the children had formed 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. Turn taking games at home would support this. 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 remind 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 good listeners 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 have many opportunities to speak, widen their vocabulary and will be encouraged to use the correct tense.

At home, encourage your child to talk about something they love eg. a favourite toy or movie, including many details - you may need to model this first. If you have video calling facilities, perhaps call a friend or relative and ask your child to tell them about something specific eg. A picture they have drawn, how to make something simple in the kitchen such as a sandwich.



Physical Development

The children will take part in a weekly P.E. session; this will continue to be on a Friday. 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 where they can develop their gross motor skills 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.

While at home, opportunities to get outdoors is essential; walking, bike riding, scooting and park visits will facilitate the development of gross motor skills. Fine motor activities that you may find accessible at home - threading cheerios onto dried spaghetti, attaching pegs to an item, threading pipe cleaners through a colander, tracing shapes/ pictures, playdough - can you roll a sausage? Can you squeeze it tightly in your hand?



Literacy

The children will continue to take part in daily Phonics sessions. Here they will be learning a new sound, whether these are individual sounds or digraphs (two letters that make one sound, for example 'sh'). They will also be learning to sound out words and blend them together to read (c-a-t is cat). The children will be using this phonic 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! The children will also continue to learn to tell stories as part of our 'Talk for Writing' sessions.

Please ensure you give your child the opportunity to read or practice their phonics at home every day. Any chance they get to write, for example, compose a shopping list or write a birthday card, would be great!

Please remember to support your child to read 25 times in order to save a Reading Bug from the Evil Pea!



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 problems. We will also take a look at time, shape, length and height. Please ensure you are encouraging your children to count objects and recognise numbers at home. Make it fun, for example, complete number hunts or challenge them to count how many red cars there are on the way to school!



Understanding of the World

The children will continue to learn about the world around them; Spring is a great opportunity to look at changes in the environment and signs of new life. The ongoing pandemic will allow us to look closely at the different roles of people who are essential in keeping the world going.

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. We love seeing all the creative activities our children get up to at home so please add these to Tapestry!

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

Remember we are always here to help. Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher at the beginning or end of the day. Alternatively, please feel free to email your child's class teacher using the addresses below:

RA - l.williams@newtonleysprimary.org

RB - e.scarito@newtonleysprimary.org

RC - j.christmas@newtonleysprimary.org

Many thanks for your continued support!

The Reception Team