



Reception Spring 1 2022 Newsletter



What has been happening this term?

As usual it has been a very busy term and the children have enjoyed learning about different people who help us. They created some fabulous fire engines using recyclable materials, developed their imagination and communication with various role play sessions and I think we may have some doctors, nurses, vets and air stewards in the making!

Chinese New Year was a great success, the children enjoyed taking part in dragon dancing, making red envelopes, learning about some the Chinese traditions, building the Great Wall of China themselves and tasting both traditional and western Chinese foods using chop sticks.

We have been focusing on developing fine motor skills and using cutlery correctly, a number of children have said that they are now using a knife and fork for meals at home and not just a fork which is great to hear and we are very thankful for your support– it really does make a difference. We will continue to work on correct letter formation and if anyone would like any more formation sheets please do let us know via the home school book, this applies for number formation too.

The children were really interested in looking at the cello and having the opportunity to play it, they also found the oboe fascinating as it came apart and they could see all the keys. Next term we hope to develop their musical instrument knowledge further.



Curriculum- What will the children be learning this term?

Communication and Language:

The children will continue to be introduced to new words related to their learning. They will develop their listening skills and be able to respond relevantly. They will be encouraged to ask questions, clarify their understanding, express their ideas and feelings using full sentences.

Some of the words we will introduce and explain will be: climate, landscape, individual liberty, savannah, safari, respect, baptism. Plus many more.

How to support your child at home: Encourage your child to answer questions in full sentences rather than single words. Talk about some of the language we will introduce so that they know what each word means and know how to use it in a sentence.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Through our jigsaw PSHE programme (being me) and Thrive (power and identity) the children will be developing how they can work together in teams, be responsible for their actions and words, understand that everyone has the right to learn, they will develop their sense of belonging and also develop their understanding (in simple terms) of the British Values.

How to support your child at home: Talk to your child about the 4 British Values and give examples of how the British values below fit within our everyday lives.

Democracy - everyone is treated equally and has equal rights.

Rule of law - understanding that rules matter, learning to manage our own feelings and behaviour: about learning right from wrong: about behaving within agreed and clearly defined boundaries: about dealing with the consequences.

Individual liberty - children's self-confidence and self-awareness. Developing their self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities.

Mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths. - learning to treat others as we want to be treated. How to be part of a community, manage feelings and behaviour; and form relationships with others. Developing an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance, where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued *and* where we encourage children to engage with their wider community.

Physical Development:

We will continue to develop core strength skills through dance and movement. The children will also have some balance bike training to support this.

There will be a focus on using scissors correctly and cutting out a range of different shapes.

Outside the children will be improving their agility, balance and coordination through, running, skipping, jumping and hopping whilst also developing their special awareness of others and objects

How to support your child at home: Encourage your child to cut out various different shapes using scissors. Please ask via the home school book if you require any scissor skill support sheets.

Maths:

Through the power maths scheme the children will be developing their knowledge of number bonds to 10, addition to 10 including problem solving, they will be identifying 3d shapes and their properties and also identifying features of; and creating a repeating pattern.

How to support your child at home: Practise number bonds to 10 so that your child can automatically from memory recall them all.

What is a number bond? *Number bonds* are pairs of numbers that can be added together to make another number e.g. $4 + 6 = 10$, $7 + 3 = 10$

Encourage your child to count to 10 and back again to 0. If they have achieved this count to 20 and back down to 0

Literacy:

Through our Talk4Writing scheme the children will be exploring story maps, looking at 'bossy' verbs, the correct use of capital letters and full stops, they will be dramatising settings and developing independent writing at sentence level.

Phonics—we will review the sounds taught—ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur oo ow oi ear air er, look at words with double letters like toffee, hammer etc. Then look at longer words and words with two or more digraphs.

How to support your child at home: Encourage your child to write as much as possible, writing shopping lists, stories, labelling pictures, writing about their weekend or an event, design and write a menu, write a letter to a grandparent or friend. Let your child use their phonic knowledge to sound out words independently. Encourage them to have finger spaces between each word and correct any incorrect letter formations.

Ensure your child can recognise and write all the sounds taught (these are in your phonic packs)

Encourage your child to read daily even; if its only for 5 minutes. We are really seeing the benefits of those children who read daily at home as well as in school—Keep it up they are becoming lovely fluent readers.

Understanding the World:

Our topic this term is 'Our Wonderful World' the children will be learning about plants, places and animals. There will be a focus on wild animals in Africa, farm animals and animals that live in the ocean. They will look at maps and identify where Africa is along with looking at the landscapes.

They will investigate what plants need to live, in simple terms identify the parts of a plant, they will grow some beans, cress and sunflowers and be responsible for looking after them. They will look at different cultures, religions and talk about the differences.

They will carry out experiments with ice and look at how the world is changing due to global warming. Our Global goal will be looking at climate action

In Religion and Worldviews, we will look at different celebrations from Hindu, Jewish and Islamic faiths. We will also learn about the Easter story.

How to support your child at home: Look at what it is like to live in Africa today, compare the differences from our local area to local townships and cities.

Expressive Art and Design:

The focus for this term's art will be using textiles. In addition to this we will be looking at African art, mixing colours, designing and creating under the sea scenes and making Easter baskets.

The children will create props to retell the Easter Story and other stories that they hear. We will also do some Easter baking and look at changing states as we melt chocolate.

How to support your child at home: Encourage your child to retell stories in their own words



NUT ALLERGIES

We have children in school who could have an anaphylactic reaction if exposed to nuts or nut traces. Please only send your child to school with packed lunches that do not contain nuts or products containing nut traces. This includes Nutella and other chocolate spreads/products that contain nut traces or MAY contain nut traces.

Important Dates

Spring Term 2 begins - 28th February 2022

World Book Day - 3rd March 2022—Dress as a character from a book or bring your favourite book to school.

Red Nose Day - 19th March 2022—Wear something red

Break up for Easter - 8th April 2022

Communication

- Please write in the reading record each time your child reads at home so that we can see how they are getting on and respond to any concerns.
- If you require any supporting materials like letter or number formation sheets or anything to support your child's learning at home please let us know and we will try and help.

Reminders

- Please only send water to school in your child's bottle.
- Please can you ensure that children have a hat and gloves in school for outdoor learning. The hat, mittens and scarf all in one are not suitable for school.

