

Reception Curriculum Newsletter



BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE CLASSROOM



KEY DATES

End of Term 5 –
Friday 27th May

Start of Term 6 –
Monday 6th June

Parent-Teacher Conferences –
Thursday 30th June and
Tuesday 5th July

Literacy

Our focus story this term will be Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne, and next term our focus story will be Jack and the Beanstalk. Just like our previous stories, the children will learn the story off by heart using actions and then change small parts of the story to create a new story. We will support the children in sequencing the story and writing sentences to accompany it. We will focus on the use of the children's phonics knowledge to decode regular words for reading and writing. Children will be writing sentences using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. The children will be challenged to make predictions, draw conclusions and write in various styles i.e. instructions, stories and non-fiction text. We will also be learning about and tasting lots of different fruit.

Key vocabulary: Finger spaces, capital letters, full stops, adjectives, sentences, one day, story map, Handa, Akeyo, banana, guava, orange mango, pineapple, avocado pear, passion fruit, tangerine, Jack, beanstalk, harp, giant, market, magical beans.

Reading

This term the children will continue to follow the Read Write Inc Phonics programme. They will be learning the remaining special friends in set 2 and consolidating and revising the special friends (sh, qu, ch, th, nk, ng) in set 1 and set 2 sounds. The children will be expected to use their phonics knowledge to read and write on a daily basis and will also be learning more 'tricky' words. The expectation will be that they begin writing them as well.

Phonic books and tricky words are being sent home with all readers on a weekly basis. Please continue to support your child with their reading at home by listening to them read regularly and signing their reading record. Please ensure books are returned on Monday, so we can send new one's home on Wednesday.

Key vocabulary: fingers, capital letters, full stops, finger spaces, sound button, special friends (ay - 2 sounds together make 1 sound) tricky words.

Communication and Language

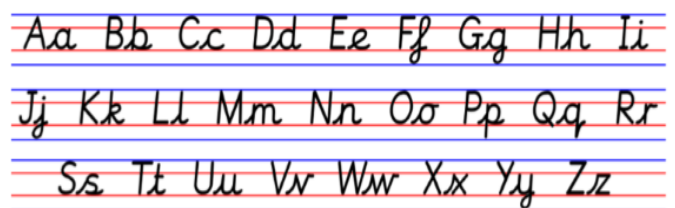
The children will be learning to listen attentively, in a range of situations. They will accurately predict key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions, or actions. The children will continue to be asked to extend their sentences and vocabulary and to link statements. They will express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs. We will explain the importance of being a good listener and paying attention to others. Children will be given plenty of opportunity in different circumstances to listen and speak with others. The children's contributions to conversations will be valued and used to inform and shape the direction of discussions.

Key vocabulary: and, because, but, so, or, full sentence.

Find Motor Skills and Handwriting

We will continue to teach the children to use pre-cursive script. Please support your child to write in pre-cursive at home.

We will continue to support Reception children to handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.



Activities at home: develop fine motor skills (finger muscles) through tracing over lines and patterns; moulding play dough; threading beads; playing with Lego, and practising letter formation.

PSHE

We will encourage children to learn about respecting each other:

- Play co-operatively, taking turns with others. They will be supported to take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity.
- Work as part of a group, understanding and following the rules. We will talk about whether things are fair or unfair, how to make things fair and why this isn't always possible.
- Talk about how they and others show feelings. The children can talk about their own and others behaviour, and the consequences, and know that some behaviour is unacceptable.

We will continue introducing games with simple rules, such as picture lotto to support turn taking. Please, give your child more responsibility and encourage them to be more independent by asking them to spread butter on their toast, dress and undress themselves and pour their own drink.

Maths

This term, we will be covering:

- Shape and pattern
- Addition and subtraction within 20
- Money

There will be a strong focus on numbers until the end of the year. We will continue to discuss place value, as well as number composition and recognising number and quantity by sight. The children will continue to be challenged to solve number problems involving addition and subtraction. They will be supported to count on or backwards, use manipulatives and draw out their thinking. The children will be encouraged to record their mathematical thinking using number sentences or marks they can interpret and explain.

Key vocabulary: more, less, greater than, fewer than, count, add, subtract, 2d/3d shape, pattern, coin, money.

Science, Geography and History

In Geography, we will be learning about 'Our world' and different landscapes. As part of our topic this half term we will be learning about a range of countries and how they are different from where we live. As Handa's Surprise is set in Africa, we will begin with comparing the UK and Kenya, looking at the similarities and differences. We would really like to encourage those of you who have experienced being a child and going to school in another country to share your experience with your child and let us know on Tapestry.

In Science, we will be investigating the life cycle of animals and plants. In particular we will be looking at the life cycle of the butterfly. To support our learning we will be reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. We will be planting seeds and talking about what plants need in order to survive and grow.

In History, our topic will be 'Kings and Queens.' We will be learning about the Royal Family and consider how their lives are different from ours. We will be talking about different kings and queens of England. We will be making castles for a king/queen to live in and learning about the different properties of a castle including turrets and drawbridges.

PE

This term we will be focussing on Athletics. This combines a number of fine and gross motor skills and fundamental movements including jumping, running and exploring throwing a variety of objects. We will also be concentrating on the concept of individual competition as well as sportsmanship.

Art

This term, we are continuing to learn about the Seasons and looking at artists who explore the idea of Spring in their work. We love experimenting in Reception, so we will be exploring lots of different art techniques such as printmaking, clay, 3D work, collage, and working with photography and fabrics. Having a lot of art fun in the process.

Vocabulary: Spring, seasons, weather, 3D form, printmaking, textiles, photograph, artist, collage.

Next term, we will start to explore ideas of Summer, and working (hopefully) outside - using the weather and natural elements to inspire our work and to form part of it. We will be playing with lots of different materials, using paint and textures to create independent artworks, and making artwork for our Summer exhibition!

Vocabulary: Land Art, environment, temporary, materials, texture, paint, colour, seasons, Summer.

Music

During the summer terms we will be studying the Little Red Hen.

Reminders

During warmer weather please send your child into school with a water bottle, hat and wearing sun cream.

Children come to school in their PE kit on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Thank you for doing so well with your child's weekly homework activities. Reception will continue to receive their Maths and Literacy Homework Challenges on the Learning with Parents website. They have been designed so that parents and children can work together on homework tasks. We hope that you enjoy them!

Please encourage your child to write in their 'Me, Myself and My World' book about themselves. Thank you for your support in contributing to this book –it is lovely to read about the children's experiences at home and the children enjoy sharing their experiences with their class.

We would appreciate if you will save your empty boxes/bottles for our junk modelling.

Thank you for all your support during the last term and we look forward to your continued support in the coming term. If you would like to speak to any of the Early Years Team regarding concerns or worries that you may have, please do not hesitate to do so.