



Reception Half Termly Update Spring Term 1

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a wonderful winter holiday and your children feel refreshed ready for the next half term. Things that will continue this term:

A large part of the Early Years is that we focus on the Prime areas and spend time playing, learning how to manage our emotions, share and understand each other's feelings. These elements are ingrained in everyday activities, games and group work as we develop storylines in our play and create collaboratively.

We have phonics and maths sessions daily, reading books will be changed at least once a week, so please read with your children every day and bring in book bags daily, especially on Mondays. Our phonics scheme is Read Write inc. and this term we join the whole school streaming whereby your child may be going to a different room in school based on their precise level of reading skill, to ensure best teaching and progression. Your child may now be in a group that sends home small photocopy reading books - these should be kept at home for 3-5 days and read each night and then returned to school please.

A weekly donation of 50p for consumables is payable to the class teacher. Secret reader is at 3.15pm, please let the teacher know if you can come one day to read a story.

Forest School starts again on the second week back (Jan 13th for TR and week after for JK). They can put their coats on over the wet play suits as I know it may be cold. Please bring hats/ gloves/ scarves and warm socks. We really need parent volunteers to be able to go, so please do come, it is so much fun!

Literacy

Inspiring story telling through a love of books and learning short stories, such as: Whatever Next! About a bear who sets off to the moon and The Three Little Pigs (traditional tale). We will be innovating these stories to change characters or settings. Starting to write by sounding out simple words or initial sounds in words and learning to use finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. We will send home story mats with key vocabulary - please talk to your children about this.

Understanding the World

We will cover the main topic of 'Space' - learning so much about our solar system and Mae Jemison, the famous astronaut.

Through these we will learn to:

- Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside including light and shadow.
- Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live.
- Identify similarities and differences between contrasting environments.
- Understand that some places are special to members of their community.
- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observations and a range of texts.
- Identify similarities and differences between different religions and cultures in this country.
- Name and describe people who are familiar to them.
- Comment on images from the past and compare to today.

In RE we will cover 'Which places are special and why?'

On Fridays we will be learning about whatever the children choose they want to find out more about during the week. So, the host of topics for this learning is endless!

We will be learning about oral health and be brushing our teeth in school daily; this is in addition to you brushing their teeth at home and not in place of. We learn about road safety and the importance of a healthy lifestyle and how to make healthy choices.

Maths

Children learn to count up to 20 and back to 0.

Children learn that if objects are bigger, it doesn't mean there are more.

Children begin to understand the one more and one less relationship between numbers.

Children investigate composition and decomposing shapes and recognise that shapes can have other shapes within, just like numbers can.

Children start to understand the composition of numbers up to and including 5.

Children learn to copy, continue or create patterns.

Children begin to learn the names of simple 2d shapes.