



# Curriculum Newsletter Reception



Spring Term 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term after what we hope was a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. Thank you for all of the lovely Christmas gifts we received. Here is a brief overview of the learning that your child will engage in over the next few weeks.

## Literacy



This term we will be continuing to learn Letters and Sounds using a combination of the Letters and Sounds and Jolly Phonics programmes. The children will also continue learning high frequency and tricky words.

The children are being encouraged to use their sound knowledge to write simple CVC words like cat and to make an attempt at more complicated words. The children will be learning how to write sentences and will begin to write for a purpose, such as writing lists, instructions, cards etc.

This term we will continue with our school handwriting scheme, Penpals. Please see the attached sheet for a brief explanation of how we teach letter formation. Examples of the scheme were given at parents evening - please let us know if you didn't get one.

## Physical Development



Physical development is not only about what we do in PE it is present in all areas such as using scissors and pencils, to kicking a ball and using climbing equipment. The children will be working on building their skills using tools and PE equipment as well as using their bodies in different ways for movement and dance. The children are always encouraged to use small and large equipment for physical development safely.

## Mathematics



In Numeracy the children will be looking at a variety of mathematical ideas. The main theme for the term is 'Problem Solving'. The children will be encouraged to use their knowledge and mathematical ideas to solve real life problems. This term we will also be spending time on more and less, estimating, positional language, repeating patterns, money and counting to and from 20.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development



The main aim of Reception is to provide an environment where the children can develop into independent, confident children. To achieve this we encourage the children to work harmoniously with adults and children by following our school rules. This allows for children to understand what is right and wrong and why.

This term the children will be encouraged to show independence in selecting and carrying out activities, initiate ideas and speak and work in a group. The children are encouraged to take turns in conversations and games and to have an awareness of their own needs and the needs of others.

## Understanding the World

Related to our themes we will be looking at snow, freezing and melting and habitats of different animals. They will also be learning about planets and space.

## Reading Books



Reading books will be changed on a weekly basis but the day may change each week so please make sure your child has their book every day. Please look at these books often with your child.

Please ensure phonics books are kept in book bags so we can update when new sounds are introduced.

## PE

P.E. kits need to be in school every day and will be sent home at the end of term. All kit needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name. In our PE sessions we will be focusing on games.

## Mathematics Workshop

We will be holding a maths workshop this term - details to follow

## Expressive arts and design

Creative development is present in all areas of the foundation curriculum. The children have access to activities every day which encourage, promote and celebrate creativity. The children have access to musical instruments, role-play areas, puppets and a creative area where they can make a variety of objects. The adult led creative activities are connected to each weekly theme where we encourage the children to talk about what they are doing.

## Any spare resources?

We have writing bags linked to interests that the children can access at any time. This greatly supports the development of their independent writing but also means we are always replenishing the resources! If you have any extra/spare pencils, pens notepads, linked to your child's interests any donations would be greatly appreciated.

## Class blog

Please check out the our blog

[edmondsley.weebly.com](http://edmondsley.weebly.com)

Please see attached letter for more information.

We hope you find this both useful and informative. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask any member of the Reception team.

Beverley Bravey, Chris Baker and Julie Boundy

Dear Parent

This term we will be introducing the children to our school handwriting scheme, Penpals. Here is a list of the letters and how we teach the children to form them. We always remind the children to start their letters at the top and to keep their pen on the paper unless it needs a dot or a cross

### Long ladder letters

t – down the ladder, curl, pen off and make a cross

l – down the ladder and flick

j – down the ladder and curl, pen off and dot

y – down the ladder and curl to make a smile, down, down, curl to add a tail

i – down the ladder and flick, pen off and dot

u - down the ladder and curl to make a smile, down and flick

### One armed robot letters

r – down the robot, up the robot, over for his arm

n – down the robot, up the robot, over for his arm, touch the floor and flick

m - down the robot, up the robot, over for his arm, touch the floor, up again and over to the floor once more, flick

h – start higher than the robots head, down the robot, up the robot, over for his arm, touch the floor and flick

p – down the robot, up the robot, over for his arm, touch his toes **or** *down the mast up the mast and round the pirates pants*

k – start higher than the robots head, down the robot, up the robot, over for his arm, touch his tummy and touch the floor, flick

b – start higher than the robots head, down the robot, up the robot, over for his arm, touch his toes **or** *down the bat, up and round the ball*

### Curly caterpillar letters

a – curly caterpillar up down flick

c – curly caterpillar

d - curly caterpillar up up, up, down, flick

e – along the road and round the curly caterpillar

f – curl like the caterpillar down, down, down, curl

g - curly caterpillar up down, down, down, curl

o – curly caterpillar keep on going

q – curly caterpillar up, down, down, down, flick

s – curl like the caterpillar then back to make a snake

### Zig-zag monster letters

v – down the slide up the steps

z – along the road, down the slide and back along the road again

x –down the slide, pen off and cross the other way

w - down the slide up the steps, down the slide up the steps

Dear Parents

We are hoping to use our class blog to showcase some of the activities the children do in class using photos and occasionally videos. No personal information will be shared on the blog i.e. names will not be linked to photographs. Please have a look at the blog and feel free to comment, we will have to approve the comments so they will not appear instantly. To ensure safety is maintained please do not use the name of any children who may appear in photographs as we will not be able to approve any comments that include personal details.

You have all signed the school ICT contract for your child's images to be used. If however you do not want them to be part of the blog please let us know as soon as possible.

You can view the blog from home by going to

[edmondsley.weebly.com](http://edmondsley.weebly.com)

click on the blog tab

click on reception.

The blog will be updated weekly, we hope you all enjoy it and we are looking forward to reading your comments.

The Reception Team