



Curriculum Newsletter Reception



Spring Term 2019

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.

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, 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



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, melting and habitats of different animals.

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.

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 activities are linked to our themes and are used to introduce new skills.

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 and core skills.

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.

Mathematics Workshop

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

Change of clothes

Please ensure your child has a change of clothes in school at all times. These can be left in a bag on their peg and will be sent home at the end of term.

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.

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

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, arm goes over

n – down the robot, up the robot, arm goes over and touches the floor, flick

m - down the robot, up the robot, arm goes over and touches the floor, up the same way arm goes over and touches the floor, flick

h –start high, down the robot, up to his tummy, arm goes over and touches the floor, flick

p – down the robot, up the robot, arm goes over and tickle his tummy

k – start high, down the robot, up the robot, arm goes over and tickle his tummy, out and touch the floor

b – start high, down the robot, up to his tummy, arm goes over and tickle his toes

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 – curly caterpillar, down, down then curl the other way

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

o – curly caterpillar all the way round

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

s – curly caterpillar, curl the other way

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