



# Reception Class

Summer Term 6 Newsletter 2020-2021



## Reception Class News

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe we are in the final term of your child's Reception year. The children have returned from the half term break full of enthusiasm and energy and have made a good start on their learning this term.

Please continue to support your child to regularly practise the sounds and sight words in their Sounds Book and to read their reading book as often as possible, ideally daily, remembering to talk about book content to help develop comprehension skills.

Thank you for the replies we have received in response to the recent Tapestry memo about your child's dressing skills. For those who may not have seen the memo, we are interested in knowing if your child is able to dress/ undress independently, fastening zips and buttons, to inform end of year assessments. We see some of this in class, but as the children do not change for PE, our experience of these skills is limited. Please email Mrs Allen direct/ via the school office to let us know. Thank-you for your continued support, Mrs Allen and Miss Kirby.

### *Personal, Social and Emotional Development*

Our PSHE topic this term is 'Changing Me'. We will be talking about the things we can do and foods we can eat to be healthy and develop our understanding of how we grow from babies to adults. We will also spend time talking about how we feel about moving to Year 1 and what we may be worried about or looking forward to in our new class, as well as sharing memories of the best bits of our Reception year.



### *Communication and Language*

Our classroom is 'language rich,' as we aim to expand the children's vocabulary in all we do. Through sharing new and exciting words, we encourage the children to use these independently in their speech and writing. We are supporting them to be confident, articulate talkers who naturally connect their ideas together when speaking. We teach them to be aware of the listener, by encouraging them to make eye contact and take turns to talk.



### *Physical Development*

We will continue to support the children in developing their fine motor skills, including using the correct pencil grip and forming letters correctly and clearly. We are very impressed with the children's handwriting skills, as was a LA Early Years advisor who recently visited our school. If your child chooses to write at home, please encourage them to use their 'best' letter formation. We have seen a big improvement in the children's gross motor co-ordination, e.g. catching, and will now refine these skills further, e.g. throwing and catching with a partner or using a bat and ball. This term the children will also do dance and further develop the skills introduced last term.



### *Religious Education*

In our current RE topic 'Life to the Full', we explore what it is to be a good friend. We extend our learning about God being kind, gentle, merciful, loving and forgiving and think about how we can show these qualities in our friendships. We finish the term with an 'other faiths' focus. The children will learn about the importance of prayer and the mosque in the Muslim faith, the signs which show people belong to the Sikh faith and simple stories from the Hindu faith, thinking about what we can learn from these.





### Literacy

We continue our daily phonics focus, to consolidate learning at Phase 4 to support the children's reading and writing skills. Please practise all sounds you know your child struggles with, as well as sight words for Phase 3 and 4 in the Sounds Book.

Our Literacy work this term has got off to a good start with an initial focus on the traditional tale The Little Red Hen -we have had great fun making (and eating!) our own bread. Other texts this term include The Snail and the Whale, which provides a contrasting locality and Share a Shell, which links to the theme of friendship.

### Maths



In Number we will consolidate our counting and number knowledge within 20 and beyond. We have started the term revisiting the concepts of doubling and halving and will also practise our sharing and grouping skills, using these to solve simple problems. The children will be introduced to the concepts of odd and even and time will be spent consolidating number and calculation skills in readiness for Year 1. In Shape, Space and Measures, the children will practise using positional language to describe where objects are in relation to other objects. They will be introduced to simple maps and plans and learn how to interpret these as well as creating simple maps of their own.



### Expressive Arts and Design

The children are expected to 'plan' their creations, e.g. knowing what they want to create in advance, and to explain their choices with regard to materials, tools and colours used.

The collection of songs known by the children continues to grow and they love to use the percussion instruments to accompany their singing. They will continue to develop an understanding of how different music makes them feel through dance.



### Understanding the World

We will be looking for signs of Summer in our school grounds. We will learn about living and working in a farm environment and will end the term with a focus on the Seaside. We will talk about how these locations are similar / different to our own locality. The children will have regular access to technology, including the class computers and the Beebots to support learning about position in Maths.

### How to support your child's learning at home:

- Continue to practise all sounds you know your child finds tricky to remember
- Practise all Phase 3 and 4 sight words in your child's Sounds Book
- Practise reading **every day** and log this in the Reading Record
- Frequent practise of phonic skills and reading at home makes a **massive** difference to progress and thank you to those families who make this a priority.
- Ask your child questions about their reading book to make sure that they understand it, e.g. Why do you think they did that? Where do you think they are going? What do you think will happen next?
- Practise finding 1 less, 1 more than any number within 20 and beyond, if appropriate
- Practise counting in 2s to 20, 5 to 50 and 10s to 100

### Other ways you can help:

- Always send your child to school with their book bag and a water bottle.
- Please do not put the water bottle in the book bag in case of leaks!
- On hot days remember to apply sun cream before school and send a hat if possible.