

Reception Curriculum Newsletter

Literacy



This half-term our core text is 'The Pirates Are Coming' by John Condon, which will be supported by other high-quality texts such as 'Ten Little Pirates' and 'The Pirates Next Door'. These texts will be used to facilitate lots of exciting writing opportunities for your child this half-term.

The children are now using their developing awareness of Set 1 sounds to write words containing special friends and simple sentences. Your child is also being taught how to write a sentence using finger spaces and a full stop.

Of course, this half term we will also be celebrating World Book Day. The children are invited to bring their favourite pyjamas, cuddly toy and storybook to school as part of our celebrations.

Please use the bank of words given to you by your child's class teacher in your parents' evening pack to support your child with writing at home.

RE



During this half-term we will be learning about Easter and the importance of this celebration within Christianity. The children will enjoy listening to the Easter Story, considering how this celebration links to the coming of Spring and the different ways that people celebrate Easter.

Take some time to discuss how your family celebrates Easter with your child – what can your child remember of their previous experiences of Easter?

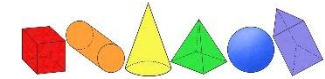
Spring Two



Last day of term:

Friday 27th March

Mathematics



This half term the children will be introduced to numbers 9 and 10 and will be thinking about number bonds within ten, finding one more than and one less than a number and comparing amounts. We will also observe 3D shapes and discuss their properties - thinking about where we see these shapes in our environment.

The children are also given lots of opportunities to consider the mathematical knowledge that they already have and to master basic skills in preparation for Key Stage One such as counting, comparing quantities and subitising.

Please continue to practice counting with your child and recognising numerals in the environment. Name 3D shapes you can see and look out for patterns.

Phonics



The children have now been exposed to all of the Set 1 Sounds and are blending words containing both single letter sounds and special friend sounds. Your child has been assessed to ascertain the sounds that they know and the complexity of the words they can read, this places them in a reading group which matches their phonics knowledge and addresses the gaps in their sound knowledge.

Please remember that the school expectation is that children read three times per week and that the expected reading level is a Ditty Sheet at this stage in the year. Please ensure that this is recorded in your child's reading record, they can then be entered into the weekly draw for the Story Suitcase.

Please ensure you read – either your child's reading book/sheet or the reading materials given to you by your child's teacher – as often as possible!

Expressive Art and Design

This half term our focus artist is Yayoi Kusama – a Japanese contemporary artist whose work is primarily sculpture based.

We will be using Yayoi Kusama's work to think about how we can express ourselves through our paintings, drawings and models.

Practice drawing at home and talk about the details you are adding to your pictures. Look carefully at the shapes and make sure the children choose the correct colours for each object.



Physical Development

In our PE lessons we will be pretending to be clowns! We will be developing our ball skills and we will be learning to roll a small ball with control. We will also be learning to hold a balance position with a partner. This will help build core strength as well as encouraging teamwork.

You can help your child by taking them on walks or to the park where they will gain strength and control. Playing with playdough, beads or threading are great for developing the fine motor skills needed for writing.



Music

In music, we will continue learning to play the glockenspiel to familiar songs. We are also beginning to improvise when playing, and create some of our own pieces of music on the glockenspiels and beaters.

As always, singing is a core element of our curriculum within Reception and the children can now sing a broad range of traditional and modern songs.

Sing as much as you can with your child at home – songs are a great way to learn new words, understand melody and to have fun!



Jigsaw (PSHE)

This half-term our Jigsaw topic is Healthy Me. The children will learn about the various ways we must keep ourselves healthy. They will be thinking about exercise, healthy food, getting enough sleep, keeping clean and understanding how to stay safe by knowing who their 'safe' adults are.

Talk to your child about the foods they are eating and how it is important to make healthy choices. Encourage your child to think about what their favourite type of exercise is and incorporate it into their routine as much as possible, this could be riding a bike, playing at the park, or even walking a dog.

Please remember the daily essentials:



Your child's book bag containing their reading record and any books they currently have.



A water bottle – please do not put juice in your child's bottle, only water.



A coat is essential as well as your child's jumper or cardigan. Please ensure your child's name is written in all their belongings.