

Reception Curriculum Newsletter

Literacy

This half-term our focus texts for literacy will be *Whatever Next* by Jill Murphy, *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister and *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* by Judith Kerr. We will use these books to learn about story structures, practice sequencing events, learn how to label and write short captions. The children will also learn rhymes and poems linked to these texts as well as learning new key words to increase their vocabulary.

In phonics, the children will continue to secure their knowledge of the set one sounds and will be reading short words and sentences. We will be working on hearing beginning, middle and final sounds to write short words and sentences.

Understanding the World

During this half-term we will be learning about Neil Armstrong and why he is famous. We are looking closely at celebrations and festivals to understand why other people have different special days and how they celebrate them. We will take part in the Big Bird Watch and continue to look at how the seasons change. We will also learn about Askern and compare it to another place thinking about similarities and differences. In RE we will be focussing on 'Which places are special and why'. We will talk about our homes and why they are special to us as well as learning about how churches are special to Christian people.

Talk to your child about the weather and the time it gets dark and light each day. Look for features around Askern and if you visit another place, talk to them about how it is different to home.

Dates for your diary

Parent's Evenings

5th and 7th
February



Mathematics

This half term the children will be securing their understanding of the concept of zero, the composition of 4 and 5 and comparing numbers to 5. Numbers 6, 7 and 8 will be introduced and the children will begin some simple addition. We will be continuing our exploration of mass and capacity as well as introducing the concept of length and height. We will learn some language to describe time so that we can talk about events using 'first', 'then', 'yesterday', 'today' and 'tomorrow' confidently.

Please continue to practice counting with your child and recognising numerals in the environment. Name shapes you can see and invite them to help with baking to get experience of weighing and measuring.

Jigsaw (PSHE)

This half-term our Jigsaw topic is Dreams and Goals. The children will be learning about the importance of resilience, never giving up. As a group, we will discuss obstacles which may get in our way, and we will talk about how we might overcome these.

Never giving up is an important attitude to encourage for learning. Try to highlight moments at home when this may apply for both children and adults.

Art

This half term our focus artist is Andy Goldsworthy who made lots of natural art. We will collect natural objects and try to recreate some of his pictures. We will also continue to learn how to mix colours, join different materials and make 3D sculptures. We will focus on how to draw self portraits using mirrors to look carefully at our features.

Practice drawing at home and talk about the details you are adding to your pictures. Look



Physical Development

This half term the children will continue to spend time in our outdoor area where they can practice skills such as throwing and catching a ball, balancing on the stilts and controlling a football. In our PE lessons we will be working on balancing along a straight line and also holding a static balance.

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 the fine motor skills needed for writing.



Music

After such a successful Christmas performance we will continue singing lots of songs this half term. The children will listen to different types of music in their lessons and talk about whether they like it and why, which instruments they can hear and what the structure of the music is. We will continue learning to find the pulse and exploring different instruments.

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.



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.



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.



PE Kits must be brought to school every Monday and will remain in school until the end of the week. Your child should have a plain white t-shirt and black shorts.



Don't forget to share any of your child's home learning or amazing achievements on our Seesaw platform- we love getting updates.