

Reception Spring Term Newsletter



Welcome back to the Spring Term, we hope you had a restful break. The children were very excited to tell us all about their holiday.

Our themes for the Spring term are winter, changes, Easter, Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday. We will also be learning about materials and looking at a contrasting locality to Ipswich.

Phonics

The children have settled into their phonic sessions and have been busy learning phase-two letters sounds. It is very rewarding as teachers to see them using these to blend and read their reading books so confidently. This term we will be learning the phase 3 phonemes, which includes digraphs and trigraphs. After each new week of learning, we will continue to add the relevant phonic games to the existing ones available for the children to play at home.



Reading

Thank you for supporting the children at home with their reading and recording it in their reading diary each time that they read. It is recommended that the reading books are read at least four times a week, so that the children can gain fluency in their reading rather than just sounding and blending each word. In addition to other reading opportunities, the children will continue to read individually once a week at school with an adult.

Mathematics

This term in Power Maths we will be exploring numbers to 10. The children will count to 10 and represent numbers with concrete and pictorial methods using ten frames. Once familiar with the ten frames, they will be exploring number bonds to 10 and will begin to explore these bonds in a more systematic way. We will move on to comparing numbers within 10, where the children will identify one more or less than a given number up to 10. This then introduces the concept of addition by combining two groups of objects, and subtraction as seeing the difference between two amounts. The children will add to 10 using the part-whole model. This is used to introduce the concept of addition as the combining of two parts into a whole.

As well as learning about number, the children will also learn about measures, and this will include activities based around length, height and weight. The children will learn how to compare two or more items using the vocabulary of measure and will begin to use non-standard measures to measure, then compare, items.

As well as addition, the children will learn how to subtract linking it specifically to the number bonds to 10. They will use counters and the part-whole model, both of which they will have used before. Children will begin to work with subtraction number bonds, following the 'missing part' structure.

The last unit of the term will be about exploring patterns. The children will be encouraged to recognise, extend, create and explain simple repeating patterns. They will consider patterns not just in pictures but in their everyday environment and using sounds, words, and actions.



Forest Fun

The children have really enjoyed spending time in our little wooded area last term. We have started back with our forest time with mixed weather for all three classes. The days for each class will remain the same as last term: RB – Tuesday, RA – Wednesday, RSB – Thursday. The children will need their wellies for this day, please remember to write your child's name inside each of them. As before, these can either be kept in school or taken home. The children have our school red waterproof suits which they wear over their school clothes and coat. If it is cold on forest day, please feel free to add an extra named jumper or thick socks in the wellie bag.



Tapestry

We have been adding to children's Tapestry accounts since September and we hope this has given you some insight to their experiences within school. Thank you for the updates which you have added, it's lovely to see the children enjoying life outside school. The children are becoming really confident to talk about and share their photos.



PSHE

Dreams and Goals: During the first half of term the children will learn about staying motivated when they find something challenging and having a positive attitude when working with others.

Healthy Me: During the second half of term the children will learn about making healthy choices, keeping themselves and others safe and how to be a good friend to others.



Expressive Arts and Design

We would appreciate donations for our modelling areas. This could be a range of clean items such as: boxes, cards, yoghurt pots, bottles, wool, newspapers, ribbon, fabric, wrapping paper, buttons etc.

Drinks and Snacks

Please could your child bring a named bottle of water in every day. The school provides a fruit or vegetable snack for morning playtime. If you wish to provide your own snack for your child, this should also be a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Please be aware we are a nut-free school. If your child brings a packed lunch, please do not pack any food containing nuts as we have children with severe nut allergies within school.