



South Gosforth First School
EYFS Half Termly News



Spring Term 2 March 2021

Welcome Back!



We are thrilled that we can now welcome all of the children back to school and are looking forward to seeing all of their happy, smiling faces again! We are so proud of how well the children adapted to home learning and the changes over the last couple of months and greatly appreciate the support that you were able to give them at home.

Due to the current situation, we are going to have to change the way we operate our EYFS unit for a while, so that the children remain in their class bubbles of 30 rather than mixing as a whole year group of 60. This will limit the number of children and staff mixing and means that we will only need to close one class bubble rather than the whole year group if we have a positive COVID case. At the moment, we cannot say how long this will be for, but we hope to return to our usual whole EYFS unit as soon as we safely can.

Therefore, we have had to make a few slight changes to our timetable for this half term which we will attach with this newsletter so you can see how we spend our days!

Our priority is to ensure that the children feel safe and happy on their return to school. We will therefore be having our special "Week of Belonging", spending time focusing on re-establishing friendships, relationships and routines and providing lots of opportunities for play and discussion to ensure that the children are happy and emotionally ready to learn.

Guided Reading

Each child is part of a Guided Reading Group once a week.

Guided Reading sessions have an emphasis on phonics and allow pupils to practise applying their phonic skills. Pupils will access a book which directly matches their phonics ability. This book will then be sent home as your child's reading book for the week.

This half term, all children will have their Guided Reading session on a **Wednesday**, so please ensure that you child has their reading book and reading diary in their bag each Wednesday.



Individual Reading

Due to the current situation, in accordance with our Risk Assessment, we will not be hearing children read one to one this half term. We will however, be continuing with our Guided Group Reading sessions and also have lots of opportunities for reading and discussing stories as a whole class.

Phonics

We will continue to start each day with our daily Phonics session. Throughout lockdown we have continued to introduce and learn new sounds as we would have in school. The nature of the EYFS curriculum means that we are able to spend time revisiting and reinforcing learning and so we will not be learning any new sounds this half term, but will spend time revising the most recent sounds we have learnt.

We will send home the sounds that we have focused on each week on the homework timetable so that the children can practise them at home.

P.E.

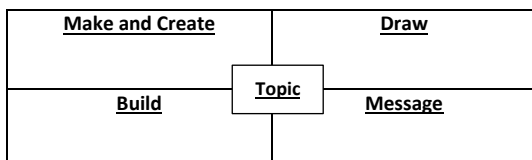


This half term, we will continue to have PE every **Wednesday**.

The children will need to come to school dressed in their PE kits every Wednesday. They will need to wear their PE T-shirt, school jumper or cardigan, dark tracksuit bottoms and trainers. Weather permitting, we will aim to have our PE sessions outside.

Play Projects

This half term, we have planned to have a Play Projects day every Friday. The children love Play Projects and it is wonderful to see their imaginative ideas, how they link these ideas together, work as a team and incorporate reading, writing and maths into their projects.



Maths

As with Phonics, our focus this half term will be reinforcing concepts introduced during lockdown. We spent a lot of time understanding the concept of addition and learning number bond to 10, so this will be our initial focus.



Tapestry and Homework

We will continue sending our homework activity timetable to you on Fridays (commencing from Friday 19th March). This will be posted in the documents section of Tapestry (where we have been posting our weekly planning and activities during lockdown) rather than being emailed to you.

Please could you send the signed weekly homework timetable, photos and videos to us on Tapestry. We love seeing the activities that the children have been doing at home and how much they have remembered from their learning in school and greatly appreciate your support with this.

We do also post weekly updates of what we have been getting up to in Reception on our school Twitter page, @SouthGosforthFS, and our Facebook page, so look out for any updates on there.



Literacy

We will be continuing with our 'Talk for Writing' units this half term, encouraging the children to develop their story language and structure in order to enable them to write their own stories.



Dates For Your Diary

Friday 19th March - Comic Relief - Red Nose Day

Thursday 1st April - Last day of term

More details about all of these events will follow nearer the time.

Many thanks for your on-going support, The Early Years Team