



Summer 2 Half Term Information for Parents Reception

Happy children aiming high.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a relaxing half term ready for the final very busy term in Early Years! This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

Themes: Summer 2 – Watch this Grow!

Cross curricular links:

Literacy: This half term the children will be exploring stories all about plants and growing. The books we will be looking at closely are: Jack and the Beanstalk, The Enormous Turnip and Oliver's Vegetables. We will explore these stories through small world enhancements and the children will continue to develop their book skills and writing skills linked to each book by ordering and retelling the story through pictures and writing, creating story maps, writing wanted posters for the Giant and creating labels for our 'Growing' display including labelling the parts of a plant. They will write instructions on 'How to Plant a Bean' and will have opportunities to observe and record their planted beans as well as draw and write about different flowers and plants explored in the classroom. As part of our Read Write Inc. the children will continue to learn letter sounds for quick recall and begin to write words and simple sentences linked to the stories read in Read Write Inc. sessions.

Communication and Language: We will provide opportunities for children to discuss the books we read and predict what will happen next. The children will play listening and attention games and help them to listen to and engage with their peers and develop their talking through sentences and themes. They will learn new vocabulary linked to our growing topic and from our stories and use this vocabulary to describe our story characters, and order/follow instructions about looking after a plant.

Understanding the World: The children will have opportunities to learn about and explore different plants in our immediate environment and talk about the differences and similarities and we will provide opportunities for the children to access our Interactive White Board to use different tools to design and make their own flowers and patterns using 2Simple Software.

Expressive Art and Design: The children will paint flowers for our 'Growing' display and draw flowers from their own explorations. They will also learn about Vangogh's sunflower painting and use different materials to create sunflowers using different effects, e.g. sponges, spatulas and paintbrushes. The children will also work as a group to create a junk model of a giant's castle.

Physical Development: Our PE unit this half term is athletics Use a ball and hoop in a range of throwing/aiming activities. And use different sized balls and throw at different targets to develop throwing and aiming skills.

Play chasing games manoeuvring around equipment and learn to change speed and direction accurately to develop co-ordination and running skills.

Jump like frogs on one leg and two legs on and over different equipment to develop jumping and balancing skills.

Mathematics: The children will count using seeds and flowerpots with matching numbers up to 20. They will also use different seeds and beans as apparatus for finding 1 more and 1 less and play doubling and halving games to learn how to add and share into groups. The children will order numbers to 20 on a beanstalk to help Jack get to the castle; this will also help develop their number recall and recognition of

teen numbers.

The children will measure, record and compare how tall our beanstalks grow, explore and order capacity with gardening tools, plant pots and compost and explore different weights with the compost. They will also use their shape knowledge to make shape pictures of the giant's castle.

Personal Social and Emotional Development: The children will continue to learn to play cooperatively with others through accessing a variety of activities and games. They will be supported to develop their mindfulness of others through play activities and how to be mindful of others and share.

How can you help?

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn at 8.50.
- We always enjoy hearing about your child's achievements, big and small! Trying a new food, climbing to the top of the slide in the park, sleeping all night in their own bed...Wow stars are displayed at the entrance to Reception, please fill these in and they will be stuck into your child's Learning Journey. This will help build a record of their achievements.
- Activities to try at home- Rearrange foam or magnetic letters to have fun making words! Play print spotting games when out and about to see what sounds or numbers the children can recognise e.g. road signs, supermarket labels and street names. Go on a flower/plant hunt in your garden or local nature park, plant flowers or seeds and observe the changes, count anything and everything!
- If your child has a reading book, please ensure the book is back in school on Friday ready for your child's opportunity to read with the class teacher and to change their book.

Class Reminders

Please help us by naming clothing, particularly jumpers, coats and PE kits.

We will be outside every day so your child will need a coat.

Non-uniform day – bring a bottle/chocolate donation Friday 22nd June.

Sports day is at 1pm on Wednesday 4th July.

Annual reports will be given out by Thursday 5th July.

Summer Fair is at 2.30pm on Friday 13th July. Reception will be running a 'Lucky Bag' stall and would like to start collecting any spare gift bags you no longer need ASAP.

Last day of term and summer holidays start 20th July!