



## Spring 2 Half Term Information for Parents Reception

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a fun half term and feel refreshed ready to start our new half term! 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:** Spring 2—Down in the Jungle

**Cross curricular links:**

**Literacy:** This half term the children will be reading the books Rumble in the Jungle, Dear Zoo, Monkey Puzzle, Elmer and The Tiger Who Came To Tea. 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 such as describing jungle animals and writing an invitation to a tea party. As part of our Read Write Inc. the children will continue to learn letter sounds and the corresponding hand writing rhymes. The children will focus on blending these sounds to read words and then short sentences. The children will be encouraged to speak in whole sentences to help develop their understanding of sentences and how these are broken down into words for development of writing.

**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 children to listen to and engage with their peers and develop their talking through sentences and themes. They will learn new vocabulary linked to our jungle topic to describe animals, the jungle and our story characters.

**Understanding the World:** The children will have opportunities to learn about and explore the jungle environment and the different animals that live there. They will also discuss signs of Spring and how our world changes in this season. The children will look at the celebration of Easter and what we do to celebrate this time of the year. We will provide opportunities for the children to access our Interactive White Board to engage in activities and build up independence when using technology as well as understanding how we can use the internet to research different information about the jungle and its animals! The children will also learn simple programming through the use of Bee-Bots.

**Expressive Art and Design:** The children will have opportunities to continue to develop their bank of songs by singing songs about the jungle. They will explore what happens when we mix colours linked to the story of Elmer and will continue to have access to story puppets and small world linked to each book to develop their role play skills and playing in a group.

**Physical Development:** The children will be learning to continue to develop their gross movements by moving like different jungle animals. Our PE unit this half term is gymnastics where the children will be accessing different apparatus where they will have lots of opportunities to balance, jump and explore moving in different ways.

**Mathematics:** The children will have lots of opportunities to add and takeaway practically by counting different groups of animals they can find in the jungle. All our calculations and math work will be linked to the weekly book to encourage their engagement within these activities. The children will continue to develop their knowledge of 2d and 2d shapes and will have opportunities to make patterns linked to jungle animals and their fur. We will start to explore time, and order familiar events linked to our stories.

**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 talk about themselves positively through links with Elmer and recognise how we are all different and the same. They will be supported to

develop their mindfulness of others through play activities and how to be mindful of others and be given extra support to

### 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 - draw read a jungle story for enjoyment! 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.
- Read Write Inc. homework will be sent out weekly. Each child will have specific sounds to practise linked to their learning in their Read Write Inc. group that week. These will be sent out on Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday. These are a guide for you as well as the children

### Class Reminders

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

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

World Book Day is Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Don't forget Mother's Day Lunch is this half term.