



Reception Newsletter

Spring 2 TOPIC: CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

Welcome back to another half term. Our school year is flying by, it is hard to believe that we are already halfway through the academic year! We begin this newsletter by saying welcome back to Mrs Day who will be returning from her maternity leave on March 1st. Mrs Day will be teaching in Reception on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Brookes will continue to teach Reception on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

This half term we will be doing lots towards the 'Early Learning Goals' for the end of Reception.

Our new topic for this half term is 'Creatures Great and Small' where we will begin by exploring our new focus text Jack and the Beanstalk, written by Mara Alperin, this is a fantastic well-known fairy tale. In Literacy, children will be developing their writing further by writing sentences much more independently now. Children are getting really good at robot talking to segment words, we will develop this further by writing more than just three sounds in words, building sentences to make them more interesting and adding in punctuation. They will remember to use a capital letter at the beginning of their sentences, finger spaces to separate words within their sentence and a full stop at the end.


To develop our reading skills we will continue to do phonics every day. We have now taught all of the phonemes that children need to know for reception. We will spend this half term recapping some that they are unsure of and begin to read longer words. Tricky words will also be recapped, please help your children with these at home too. Some children will begin to bring home a Robot Pot in their book bags – they need to decode these words by saying the phonemes and blending together to say the word, Eg r ai n = rain. These will be checked at school each week and a new set given when needed.

In Maths, we will start by securing our knowledge of the days of the week. Children should be able to recall the order of the days of the week and also know what day comes before/after, tomorrow/yesterday. Eg, that Sunday comes after Saturday. And that Monday is before Tuesday.

We will also explore length and height using language such as long/short, tall/small. Children will compare based on size and order from smallest to biggest, shortest to tallest. Another unit of Maths that we will be learning about is making pairs and begin to count in twos.

Through weekly Personal, Social and Emotional (PSED) sessions the children will explore 'Healthy Me' which includes keeping clean, moving our bodies and stranger danger. We will also discuss 'New Life' and link this to what Spring brings as we enjoy the build up to Easter. We will learn new songs and perform these as part of Expressive Arts and will learn how paint using different techniques.

Within our PE lessons, we will be focusing on Dance this half term. We will move our bodies to music by moving in different ways, recreating dance moves as animals – starting with the



famous Baby Shark, moving onto children creating their own dance routines and sequences whilst imitating the movements of other animals such as tigers, butterflies and frogs.

Our PE days will continue to be on a Wednesday. Please make sure your child comes to school in their P.E. kit on that day. Long hair should be tied and back and please remove any earrings before the day.

The children in Reception have really developed a love of making things from junk this year. We are running low on boxes and containers for this so please could you save your recycling items such as cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes, bubble wrap materials and empty bottles for our junk modelling station in the Creative Area.

Thank you to everyone who completes homework. The homework set will be on Tapestry every Friday. It will support what we are learning at school and so we would appreciate it if you could complete the work set if possible. Please remember if your child does something at home to make you proud, please put it on an observation on Tapestry for us to see.

If you have any questions or worries, please do not hesitate to see one of us. Our priority in a morning is to get the children in safely and start their day, but we can always arrange a time to see you at another time. Many thanks for your continued support. We look forward to working with you more closely this half term and being able to work alongside you in the classroom.

The Reception Team 😊