

Reception

Parent Newsletter
 Spring 2016

Mrs Thompson
 Miss Plumb

A school where everyone shines.

Welcome back after the half term holiday!
 We hope you are ready for a busy half term; here is what we will be learning ;

<u>Learning Challenge—How can we help Cinderella have a ball?</u>	
	<p>This week we have started our new learning challenge and have started planning an Easter Ball for Cinderella. Over the half term we will be thinking about the different things we need to prepare such as invitations, decorations and food. We will be learning about different traditional tales and the different characters, events and settings in the tales. We will also be sending letters to different characters from traditional tales to help us to discuss feelings and how some actions can hurt others feelings. We will be using our creative skills to make textured homes for the three pigs and box modelling castles. We will also be exploring the properties of materials to make sensible shoes for Cinderella to go to the ball in.</p>
<p>Letters & Sounds</p> 	<p>In letters and sounds most children have now moved on to phase 3 sounds and will learn that 2/3 letters can make one sound e.g ai, ee, igh. They will learn to recognise phase 3 sounds and apply them when reading and writing words and captions. Some children will be moving on to phase 4 in the next couple of weeks and will be learning to read and write words that have adjacent consonants in (2 or more consonants together in a word) e.g tent, toast and stand. All children have moved on to the next phase of tricky words (sight words) and your child has them as homework this week. Please practise reading these with your child little and often to help them to remember them.</p>
<p>Literacy</p> 	<p>In Literacy, we will be using our knowledge of letters and sounds to write for a range of purposes. We will write invitations, letters, lists and instructions. We will also be introduced to a range of traditional tales and discussing repeated refrains, story structure, characters and settings. We will also be practicing our reading skills, reading a range of texts and doing exciting reading activities based on our traditional tales.</p>

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Subject	
<p data-bbox="118 147 268 176">Mathematics</p> 	<p data-bbox="302 147 1019 378">In maths, we will continue to work on our counting and number recognition, including finding the missing numbers in a sequence. We will practice addition and subtraction and work on doubling, halving and sharing. Some children will move on to solving addition and subtraction word problems and learning number bonds to 10. In shape, space and measures, we will be remembering how to use vocabulary to describe 3D shapes, length, size and weight.</p>
<p data-bbox="168 433 219 462">P.E</p> 	<p data-bbox="302 430 1008 714">In P.E, we will be transferring the skills we learned last half term onto the apparatus. We will be using a range of apparatus to transfer our weight, rock on different parts of our bodies and roll. We will be remembering how to improve our travels by thinking about the positions of our arms and legs and pointing our fingers and toes. When we have practised these skills, we will put some movements together into a short sequence. In addition to our P.E sessions, the children will continue to have a weekly multi-skills session in which they will practise a range of skills.</p>
<p data-bbox="145 769 241 836">Special Times</p> 	<p data-bbox="302 764 1019 1226">On Thursday 3rd March we are taking part in World Book Day and as a school we are inviting our children to dress up as their favourite book character. As a staff team in Reception we are dressing up as pirates from the story Pirates love Underpants. So please feel free to dress your child as a pirate if they are unsure what character to be. To celebrate World Book Day we are going to visit the library on Friday 5th March in the afternoon. Mrs Thompson's class will be leaving school at 1pm and arriving back at school around 2:20pm. Miss Plumb's class will be leaving at 2pm and arriving back at school for 3:15pm. In order for the trip to happen we need parent volunteers. Please come and speak to us if you can help. During the last couple of weeks of term we will be celebrating Easter! We will be talking about the importance of Easter for Christians, making Easter nests, having an egg hunt and of course our Easter Ball!</p>

Please see over for information about homework and general notices. If you are unsure about homework tasks or would like more information on subjects your child will be studying please ask your teachers for help. It is vital we work together to ensure your child's success.

How to help at home:

Thank you for all of your support during the last half term. We have included some helpful tips to help you to help your child below:

Reading

From next week the way we change your child's reading books will be changing. We will be giving each child 3 reading books at a time and only changing them once a week. This will allow enough time to read all 3 reading books and for you to have a good discussion about the books with your child. We would also like your child to comment on the books that they have read in the week, saying what they liked/disliked, which book was their favourite and why etc. Please write this information as part of your comments in the reading diary and we will be asking the children these questions too. We feel that this will give children more ownership of their reading, allowing them to choose the order of reading their books and form their own opinions of them. By doing this your child will gain familiarity with texts e.g. settings, characters and structures. This change will continue until the end of term then we will review it. Your child's books will be changed on their guided reading session day:

Monday—Brilliant Butterflies

Tuesday—Clever Caterpillars

Wednesday—Proud Peacocks

Thursday—Fantastic Foxes

Friday—Super Squirrels

If you unsure which group your child is in please come and ask us or look at the displays in our classrooms. Children should still be reading every night at home and we hope they will enjoy having a choice of books! Please ensure that your child brings their books bag to school everyday and that you sign the night before your child's guided reading session.

Homework—This will continue to be handed out every Wednesday and needs to be returned by the following Monday. Towards the end of term we noticed a decline in the amount of homework being returned. Please remember the activities sent home help to embed your child's learning and it is important that homework is completed.

Parents evening will be on the 14th and 16th March 2016. This includes I.E.P. review meetings. Further details to follow.

The Reception Team