

Reception

Parent Newsletter
 Spring 2016

Mrs C Johnson
 Miss D Barks

A school where everyone shines.

Happy New Year! Welcome back. Here is what we will be learning this term...

	<p><u>Learning Challenge—Why is it cold in winter? Is everybody's home the same?</u></p>
	<p>This term we have two Learning challenges. For the first are exploring the outdoors and learning about Winter. We will be doing some experiments to help the children find out about ice and other features of winter. We will be thinking about animals and how winter affects them. We will also be taking part in the RSPB School Birdwatch. In our second Learning challenge we will be thinking about homes and how they are different from each other. We will continue to attempt to build our igloo in Sunbeams, please keep the Milk Cartons coming!</p>
<p><u>Letters & Sounds</u></p> 	<p>The children have completed Phase 2 Letters and Sounds. Some of the children have moved onto Phase 3. They will be learning the next set of sounds and using them to read and spell simple words and captions. The children who remain on Phase two will continue to secure their knowledge and understanding of the Phase Two sounds and skills before progressing to Phase Three.</p>
<p><u>Literacy</u></p> 	<p>In Literacy, we will be using our sounds to read and write simple words and sentences. The children will be encouraged to use the High Frequency words that we shared at Parents Evening. We will be writing for different purposes including non-fiction writing to support our Learning Challenge. This term we are introducing Guided Reading where the children read in small groups with an adult. In each session they will be practising specific reading and comprehension skills.</p>

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Subject	
<p data-bbox="120 156 264 181">Mathematics</p> 	<p data-bbox="302 152 1021 304">In maths, we will work on our counting and number recognition. We will be practising putting numbers in order and finding 1 more and one less than a given number. The children will also be learning strategies to help them to complete simple addition and subtraction sentences.</p> <p data-bbox="302 332 1021 433">In shape, space and measures, we will be continuing to look at 2D and 3D shapes and using mathematical language to describe them. The children will be exploring capacity, money and time.</p>
<p data-bbox="170 467 215 492">P.E</p> 	<p data-bbox="302 463 1021 640">P.E will continue to be on Tuesday for Sparkling Sunbeams and Thursday for Mighty Moonbeams. The children each need a named P.E kit which can be left in school for the term. This term we will be using the different apparatus and thinking about how we move across and around it, developing the children's balance and strength.</p> <p data-bbox="302 640 1021 740">In addition to our P.E sessions, the children will continue to have a weekly multi-skills session on a Monday afternoon in which they will practise a range of skills.</p>
<p data-bbox="136 769 248 836">Outdoor Learning</p> 	<p data-bbox="302 766 1021 1018">The children will be using the outdoor learning area regularly. Please make sure they have suitable footwear and a named coat. This term we will be using the school environment and hopefully the local community to answer our two learning challenges. The children will continue to take part in planned activities to help develop their gross motor skills which is crucial in developing their fine motor control.</p>
<p data-bbox="114 1080 277 1105">Special days</p>	<p data-bbox="302 1076 1021 1219">We have already enjoyed listening to the children tell us about their Christmas' and how they have celebrated. This term we will be encouraging them to think about some of the things other people celebrate such as Chinese New Year. We will look at some of its customs including trying Chinese food.</p> <p data-bbox="302 1219 1021 1303">At the end of term we will be celebrating what we have learnt about homes by having a den building afternoon which we would love you to join us for.</p>

Homework

Thank you to the parents who have been supporting their children to complete their homework. All the tasks that are sent home support the work the children are doing in the classrooms and so help the children to further their learning. It also informs you of what the children are doing in school. Homework will continue to be sent out on a Wednesday and collected in on a Monday.

Reading

Please make sure your child puts their reading book into the Reading Bag box in the classroom. The children are all in Literacy groups and from next week each group has a designated day when their reading book will be changed (we will make sure you know what day your child's book will be changed). The children will be given two books to take home for the week. We are really pleased with the support you have given with the Royal Reading Challenge, thank you! We will be continuing with weekly challenges this term.

Talent Tree

Don't forget we have a Talent Tree in our cloakroom area to celebrate the children's achievements outside of school. Please share their achievements by writing on one of the leaves and hanging it on our tree.

How to help at home

Please continue to share your child's reading books as often as possible to give them the opportunity to practice the reading skills we are teaching in Guided Reading.

We would also appreciate if you could encourage the children to become more independent for example dressing themselves especially fastening their coats and putting on their socks and shoes.

The Reception Team