



Reception

Parent Newsletter  
Spring 2018

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*A school where everyone shines.*

Welcome back! We have a busy term ahead. Here is what we will be learning...

<u>Learning Challenge—</u>	
	<p>This term we are thinking about different environments and how animals like to live in particular places. We will be using the computers and books to find out which animals like to live in warm or cold countries. We will also explore our own environment during the cold weather and conduct some experiments to find out more about ice and water.</p>
<p><u>Letters &amp; Sounds</u></p> 	<p>The children have all been taught the phase 2 sounds in their Letters and Sounds sessions. Lots of children are moving on to learn the Phase 3 sounds.</p> <p>During this term we are continuing to practise reading simple words by blending sounds together and writing words by chopping them up to hear the sounds we want to write. We are also developing our sentence writing, ensuring that our all our sentences have a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.</p> <p>We will continue to practise forming our letters correctly, making sure we start in the correct place—sometimes in the middle, sometimes at the top but never at the bottom!</p>
<p><u>Literacy</u></p> 	<p>We are using texts to support our Learning Challenge, to help us to find out about different environments and the animals that live in them. We will be sharing 'Handa's Surprise' and 'Cuddly Dudley'. If you have any stories at home that feature animals in a warm setting or animals in a cold setting please bring them in. We will also be using the computers and information texts to find out more about different animals and their habitats. Towards half term we will be sharing winter stories with more familiar settings such as 'Percy the Park Keeper' and 'Winnie in Winter'.</p>

**S.H.I.N.E.**

Subject	
<p><b><u>Mathematics</u></b></p> 	<p>We are fortunate to be able to take part in a 'Counting Project' so in maths, the children are continuing to work on our careful counting, making sure they count one thing at a time, recording numbers and recognising numbers to 20. The children are also exploring and developing their understanding of numbers eg using '10 frames' when counting objects to begin to understand that 15 is 10 and 5.</p> <p>In Shape, space and measure the children will be exploring money, in particular recognising different coins and using pennies to solve simple maths problems. We will also be revisiting shape and using mathematical language to talk about and describe shapes.</p>
<p><b><u>P.E</u></b></p> 	<p>P.E will be on Tuesday for Writers and Thursday for Artists. The children each need named P.E kit. These will be sent home at half term for washing. You are welcome to take these home to freshen up before half term.</p> <p>In P.E, the children will explore ways of travelling and learning how to safely use apparatus. They will also be practising some yoga!</p> <p>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. This term these lessons will focus on movement and dance.</p>
<p><b><u>Outdoor Learning</u></b></p> 	<p>Outdoor Learning— We will be using our Outdoor Learning space every day so please make sure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather. It is lovely to see the children so active in their learning! You may have noticed that some of our outdoor experiences can be a little messy (they love the mud kitchen!) so please bear this in mind when the children are choosing which coat they want to wear for school!</p>
<p><b><u>Special days</u></b></p>	

## Homework

We will continue to provide homework tasks each week. They will be put into the Parents Box by the Reception door. Most of these tasks are to support the children with their basic skills such as sounds they are learning, numbers and letter formation.

## Reading

Thank you for supporting your children with their reading. Please continue to share a book with them as often as possible. Please make sure you write in their reading diary when you share a book with your child so that the staff will know when they are ready to change their book. Staff will check books on a Monday and a Thursday and any that need changing will be changed. Please make sure your child puts their reading book into the Reading Bag box in the classroom and not on their peg.

## How to help at home

Please share books as often as possible.

Please practice counting as often as possible. Sometimes this might be saying the number names in order, sometimes it might be practicing counting objects accurately.

The children are all bringing home a letter formation sheet with their name on the bottom. For some children the emphasis is on being able to write their own name. For those children who can already write their name independently, we would like them to practice forming the letters correctly.

Please continue to encourage the children to be more independent when putting their coats on. It saves lots of time at playtime!

## Pushchairs

A reminder to please leave pushchairs outside when you are delivering and collecting the children so that we can make sure there is a clear and safe entry and exit point. Thank you!

The Reception Team