

# RECEPTION SUMMER TERM FORECAST



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Summer term in Reception.

This year will look a little different as we adapt our curriculum to revisit key learning which may have been missed from the previous school year or learning that needs to be revisited and developed further.

## OUR WEEK

**Tuesday:** PE (bags stay in school and are sent home when necessary)

**Thursday:** Book bags must be sent into school (book bags will be returned on Friday afternoons)

We are hoping that swimming will resume in June, the day is tbc

## Our topic and Curriculum

This newsletter aims to give you some useful information about general routines at school and an overview of the work we will be doing over this term. Each week we focus on a new book which helps us to explore all aspects of our curriculum and our topic through these texts.

During the Summer term our topics are *Magic and Mystery* and *Animal Magic*. In our first half term we will be exploring Magic and Mystery where we will discover more about fairy-tales and using our imagination. In the second half of the term, through the topic of Animal Magic, the children will learn about jungle animals, mini beasts, pets, farm animals, endangered animals and arctic animals.

We aim to foster a love for learning and the best way for this is through the children's own interests; therefore our learning may encompass many different topics throughout the term to engage those, too!

Play is an important part of our curriculum. Well-planned, challenging and enjoyable play is a key way through which children learn in the Foundation Stage. Our learning takes place both inside the classroom and in our outdoor area throughout the year, so hats, gloves and scarves are required while we see out the last of the cold weather! There are 7 areas of learning in the Foundation Stage and throughout the course of the year the children will be assessed in each of these. We will observe them playing and interacting with each other, take notes, record what they are able to do and things they may need more support with, take photographs of things they have created and keep pieces of work they have completed in a special book.

## **Personal, Social and Emotional Development:**

Throughout this term we will continue to have a big focus on managing our feelings and behaviour as we know the children have missed a lot of time with their peers this year. We will support the children in understanding feelings of their own and others. Children will learn strategies to help them express and cope with the feelings they may be having. Through conversations with adults and peers the children will begin to understand that their actions can upset others, Together, we will explore steps that children can take to comfort someone if they have upset them. We will continue to promote turn taking and sharing among the children as well as introducing the first steps to resolving their own conflicts with one another e.g. finding a compromise.

The children will be encouraged to talk about themselves in positive terms and to talk about their abilities. They will learn that somethings that make them unique and we will talk about some of their similarities and differences in relations to their families and friends .

## **Physical Development:**

A good proportion of our time will still be spent developing our fine and gross motor skills. We will be developing these skills using a range of strategies including messy play, craft activities, daily activities at our funky fingers table and movement play. This is essential for all areas of the curriculum with the ultimate aim of every child confidently holding a pencil with a tripod grip and feeling confident whilst forming all of their letters. We will also be learning co-ordination of our body movements in P.E.

**Mathematics:** Throughout the Summer term the children will continue to deepen their understanding of number. During the Spring term we worked hard to ensure all children had a solid concept of the numbers 6-10. This meant ensuring that they could recognise and write the numerals, break each number down into smaller numbers (i.e. 6 can be made up of six ones, a five and a one, or a three and a three, as well as all of the other combinations), find one more and less and start adding and subtracting these numbers to and from each other. This learning will be continued for the first part of our Summer term to ensure the children have a really good understanding of numbers 1-10 before we move on.

Further on in the Summer term we will be looking at 3D shapes as well as starting to learn about building numbers beyond 10 and looking at counting patterns beyond 10. We will explore adding more and taking away from groups of objects as well as doubling ,sharing and grouping with sets of objects. The children will have opportunities to deepen their understanding of pattern and relationships as well as learning about spatial reasoning.

**Literacy:** This term we will continue to learn and revise phase 3 sounds, as well as focusing on reading and writing high frequency words. We will also learn to read and write words with the phase 4 blends and clusters. The children will continue to practice their reading and comprehension skills through a variety of activities and 1:1 reading. We will continue to encourage the children to write for a purpose e.g. labelling pictures, plans, letters, lists, invitations, stories and treasure maps. We will provide opportunities for children to apply their phase 3 and 4 phonic knowledge, tricky words and high frequency words as they work towards reading and writing longer captions/sentences. Please help your child to revise the sounds through their homework tasks each week. By helping your child to learn the letter sounds and actions, you will be providing a great support during the early stages of learning to read and write. The children will also be bringing home two library books in book bags on Friday's for you to read to them. **Please use the reading diaries to record any comments about library or reading books.**

**Communication and language:** There will be lots of opportunities for children to work in small groups where they are encouraged to take turns speaking and listening to each other. We will also encourage the children to listen and respond appropriately during conversations that take place throughout their day. During our regular whole class story sessions we will promote the children listening intently so they become able to re-call parts of the stories and to anticipate events.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** This is a part of the curriculum that is never-ending and often overlaps many different subjects. Each day there are opportunities for the children to paint, draw, chalk, cut out and model make. These are times for self-expression and exploration of different materials. The children will be busy learning different art techniques as they explore the different activities each day. The children will also participate in music and movement sessions or a music making session, so they can learn about simple elements of music and have a variety of different opportunities to sing and dance. Areas of focus will be: moving rhythmically, repeating simple and complex percussion patterns, and exploring sounds of different instruments and ways of changing music. The children will have the chance to make music, dance and perform with their peers.



session or a music making session, so they can learn about simple elements of music and have a variety of different opportunities to sing and dance. Areas of focus will be: moving rhythmically, repeating simple and complex percussion patterns, and exploring sounds of different instruments and ways of changing music. The children will have the chance to make music, dance and perform with their peers.

Reception staff

Miss Napier (Class teacher)

Mrs Emms (Nursery nurse)

**Understanding of the World:**

During our *Magic and Mystery* topic the children will learn about life cycles when we hatch our eggs and take care of the chicks. The children will record the changes that they observe as we keep a chick diary. In our topic *Animal Magic* the children will learn about how animals can help us as well as the products that we get from animals such as milk and honey. We will be learning about the different environments which animals live in and how we can help to look after these.

We will also introduce the children to their first history based learning as they explore the idea of 'How have I changed?' We will discuss how the children have changed since they were born and talk about key events in their lives to introduce chronology and time sequencing. We will explore the similarities and differences between Reception and Year One as the children start their transition towards the end of the year. The children will also learn some early geography skills when they take part in some map work. Children will draw maps, which they can follow, based on our different story books.

In ICT we will be encouraging independence as the children learn how to use a wide range of programmes for a purpose. The children will be learning to follow instructions to use these different programmes involving several ideas or actions.

**Educational Visits: 27th of April** :Story hunt: Fairy-tales

**3rd of May:** Our very own chick eggs arrive for us to watch hatch

**18th of June:** Zoolab

**Keeping you informed:** For both school staff and parents communication is essential; I will keep you updated through, letters and notices on the board in the cloakroom area and on some occasions through text messages. Each week I will post a 'How to Help at Home' letter with information about our weeks learning and the week ahead. The How to Help at Home newsletter is posted both on the website and on our google classroom for you to access. In addition we have regular whole school newsletters. The children's home learning tasks are posted on our google classroom on Friday afternoons with an explanation for you to follow. I will always endeavour to make time for you and any questions/ queries you may have. The end of the day is usually easier for us to have a chat so should you need this please let me know and we can schedule a time.

**Cooking:**

The children will have the opportunity to cook every half term. We ask for a voluntary contribution of £7.50 to cover the cost of cooking and other materials that we will need in Reception such as ingredients for playdough.

