



Spring Curriculum Newsletter – Reception



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring term! The children had a great first term in Reception and settled brilliantly into School. We are looking forward to an exciting term of more learning.

This term the children will continue to be supported by the class teachers, Mrs Garbutt and Mrs Maskell (till End of February) in RGM and Mrs Hargrave in RH. Mrs Bowker, our Deputy Head and EYFS lead, will continue to cover Mrs Hargrave's PPA on a Thursday pm. Mrs Robinson will continue working as our full-time teaching assistant, Mrs Afzal, Mrs Cannon, Mrs Harrison, Mrs Ballantyne and Miss Mullaney as our part time teaching assistants.

Please remember that the children will need to leave PE kits in school at the beginning of each half term and will be sent home at half term to be washed.

Many thanks,

Mrs Hargrave, Mrs Garbutt and Mrs Maskell.

Home Learning

Reading: Every Wednesday your child will bring home 2 books. Advice will be given in the Reading Record identifying skills to learn or areas to develop. Please write a short comment to inform us of your child's effort before returning the books to school on a Monday morning. A simple 5 minutes a day can make the world of difference.

Tapestry Activities: Each week, the staff upload videos of the phonic sounds and any tricky words that the children have learnt for you to practise with your child at home. We also upload a video and description of how to form the cursive handwriting letter of the week for your child to practise with you.

At different times throughout the term, we will upload videos of Maths activities along with links to suitable games, apps and websites for you to access and support your child's learning at home. Topic related requests may also be made to enhance their learning.

Please continue to upload photos or videos of 'Wow moments' from home as the children enjoy sharing these with the class.

Important Days

Monday - Return reading books

Wednesday - PE and Reading books will be sent home

Friday - Fruity Friday 50p

Important Dates

Monday 6th January – return to school

SEND Coffee morning – Friday 17th January 9.00 am

Reception height/weight/vision check – Thursday 30th January & Monday 10th March

Watch us learn – Tuesday 11th February 9.05 – 9.35 am

Friday 14th February school closes 3.30pm

Monday 24th February – school opens 8.55 am

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

Book Fair after school (small hall) – 11th -17th March

Harmony and Diversity breakfast Friday 14th March 9.00 – 10.00

Parents evenings – Tuesday 1st and Thursday 3rd April

Farm trip – proposed date Wednesday 26th March TBC

ENGLISH

In daily phonic sessions the children will be in smaller working groups. We are focussing on learning phase 3 sounds and tricky words and recapping our phase 2 sounds this term. The children will learn how to write more independently, recording dominant sounds that they hear and the tricky words that they recognise.

We will share books related to our topics and develop the children's comprehension skills, learning new vocabulary and playing 'word spotting' games.

PSED

This term the children will learn about special people in their family, friends and within the community. We will discuss why and how these people are special and unique. We will talk about how to be a good friend, how to deal with conflicts and understand emotions of themselves and others.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will continue to develop their cutting, painting, drawing, role play and junk modelling skills in the areas of provision and activities will be linked to our topics.

We will learn a number of topic songs in singing and within our music sessions the children will explore the different ways to use percussion instruments, developing an awareness of pitch, tempo and rhythm.

Physical development.

The children will continue to learn cursive script, focussing on the letters; l, i, r, n, h, m, p, t, u, j, y, b and forming numbers 6-10. To develop their fine motor skills, they will experience painting, cutting, drawing and folding alongside weekly activities on our 'Funky Fingers' table.

To focus on their gross motor skills, we will practise moving and expressing ourselves through dance and learn how to use PE equipment safely in gymnastics. We will also practise ball skills, balancing and climbing through outdoor play provision equipment.

MATHS

In Maths this term, we are focussing on numbers 5 to 10 and recapping 0-5. Learning how to count backwards from 10 – 0. We will continue to look at each number in depth, making the o'clock time, making amounts using coins and identifying 1 more and 1 less. We will be paying particular attention to the number bonds for each number. The children will learn the symbols + and =. We will also be looking at mass, capacity and 3D shapes.

Understanding the World.

This term we will be looking at different weather types and discussing Winter and how the world around us changes within each season. Children will learn to identify light sources and explore how to make a simple electrical circuit. The clothing needed for the different types of weather will be identified and the children will participate in a number of science experiments to explore ice, rain and wind.

We also explore Space, starting with the children's views of what they already know and what they would like to find out: jobs of an astronaut, the solar system, rockets etc. We even have a role play Space Station!

After half term, we look at farms and farming both in the past and now. We learn the names of baby farm animals and male / female names. We also compare farming in the UK to different countries around the world and teach the names for different farm buildings. The story of Rosie's Walk is used to introduce mapping skills with the children.

We find out about why and how the following festivals are celebrated and the children identify if their families celebrate them: Chinese New Year, Holi, Shrove Tuesday, Easter Pesak and Ramadan. Particular attention is paid to the story of Noah's Ark as it's a special story for Christians, Jewish families and Muslims.

In Computing The children will learn how to Programme a beebot and use an ipad to take photos and videos.

Communication and Language

We will continue to develop listening skills, taking turns in conversations, introducing new vocabulary, formulating simple sentences and using correct tenses when speaking. We will start introducing, 'who, what, why, where, when' questions in class.

Please see the school [website](#) should you require further information about the Reception curriculum.

Don't be late through the gate!

School **starts** at 8.55am. Getting your child to school on time really matters. Arriving late is upsetting for your child and disruptive for the rest of the class.

Being regularly late adds up to a loss of learning time.

5 mins late everyday = over 3 days of learning lost every year

10 mins late everyday = over 7 days of learning lost every year

15 mins late everyday = over 2 weeks of learning lost every year

20 mins late everyday = nearly 3 weeks of learning lost every year

30 mins late everyday = over 4 weeks of learning lost every year



Safeguarding and Child Protection

For any child protection issues please contact Mr Feeley, Mrs Bowker or Mrs Calvert and we will support you with any concerns or sensitive issues you may be dealing with.

Mrs Patterson is our SENDCo and can help you with any questions or concerns.

Please contact admin@highfield.leeds.sch.uk should you wish to speak to us.