



Reception Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed the sunshine. Summer time is almost here and hopefully the good weather will continue, which will allow us to plant and grow plants, flowers and vegetables, and make a start on our plans for the outdoor area.

We would like to thank the parents who have donated items for outside. We are hoping to install the outside tap soon to allow children easy access to water. We have kindly been given a sink for our mud kitchen but we still need to collect more pieces of reusable wood e.g. wooden pallets etc.



Please let a member of staff know if you have any spare wood to donate. Thanks!

Our Themes

This half term our theme is 'Wild Things'. We have chosen the story 'How to Grow a Dinosaur' by Caryl Hart as a starting point to our theme. The story includes themes of planting/gardening, using your imagination to create fantasy worlds, dinosaurs and the jungle. We are going to let the children decide which of these themes we follow depending on their interests. Already the children have been eager to find out more information about dinosaurs, their habitats and what they

eat. We have created a Jungle role-play corner in our shared area.

The children will be involved in planning the next steps of their learning during the lessons and will be working towards their objectives through exciting and fun activities planned for in and out of the classroom.

Children are welcome to bring in books or objects relating to these themes to share with their friends or put out on display.

Literacy:



Reading and Writing - The children will continue to develop a love of reading. We will be encouraging children to recognise the tricky sounds in words and to develop fluency and expression through whole class, small group and individual reading. The children will continue to develop and write simple sentences. We are continuing to develop children's handwriting skills and orientation of letters.

Phonics - This half term, children will be developing phonic word building and revising phase 2 and 3 sounds. To extend their knowledge we shall be introducing more complex words - CVVC words (such as **book**, **rain** and **keep**), CVCC words (such as **lamp**, **soft** and **sand**) and CCVC words (such as **frog**, **slip** and **trap**).

We would appreciate it if you could continue to practise the sounds you have at home and make words on the word maker with them.

Maths:



In maths, children will be developing their skills of counting and ordering numbers

to at least 20. Children will be counting forwards to 20 and backwards from 20. All children should be able to recognise all numbers to at least 20 and order these numbers. Practice at home with counting and ordering will really help your child in school. Children will be supported in language related to measure e.g. *more, less, greater, smaller, heavier, lighter, longer, taller and shorter.*

In practical activities and discussions the children will be using the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting and using their skills to solve simple number problems. We will continue to count in groups of 2, 5 and 10, and learn to find different ways to make 10 e.g. 5+5, 9+1, 8+2, 3+7 and 4+6.

Reminders

- We invite children to bring in a water bottle every day so that they can access them as and when they feel thirsty.
- On warm, sunny days children can bring a sun hat to school. Please apply sun protection cream on children at home before coming to school.
- **Children will need to bring their swimming kit to school every Tuesday morning.** They will need swimming costumes/trunks, swimming hat for girls or boys with longer hair styles, verruca sock if needed and a towel. The swimming lessons are to help develop water confidence. Goggles and arm bands are not required. All children are provided with back floats and woggles.
- Swimming lessons are now taking the place of our PE lessons. **PE kits can stay at home this term.** We will be practising Sports Day games and races in preparation for Sports Day next half

term, but this will be part of our outdoor learning time and no PE kit will be required.

- Homework - your child will be coming home with a Homework Activity Journal in their book bags. The journal has a list of activities to complete at home over the next six weeks. The journal is to stay at home and is to be returned to school after the next half term holiday. Please see below for the date.

Diary Dates

- **Tuesday 21st April** - NHS Dental Survey
- **Friday 24th April** - Reception are sharing trophies, certificates or medals in the celebration assembly.
- **Monday 4th May** - Bank Holiday
- **Friday 15th May** - Reception are sharing trophies, certificates or medals in the celebration assembly.
- **Tuesday 30th June** - Please return Homework Activity Journal to school.

Thank you parents and carers for your continuing help and support!

The Reception Team

