

Reception Spring 1



January 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all! We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas break. Below are some items for your information, including a short overview of what we will be learning during Spring 1.

Please could all PE kits be returned to school to make sure each child can join in with our P.E. sessions. Please ensure your child's name is in all of their clothes and belongings, we cannot stress how important this is, as I'm sure you can understand we have lots of issues making sure all children have the right clothes on when they each wear the same uniform! Last half term there were several jumpers and cardigans without names in - we can't help children find these items if they aren't named!

Show and Tell

Show and tell will begin this half term. Children will bring a slip home when it is their turn for show and tell.

Marvellous Me

This term we will be starting our 'Marvellous Me' box. All children will have an opportunity to bring the box home and fill with items that are 'special or important' to them. Children will then share these items with the rest of the class and we will discuss why they have chosen to put them in the box. Some ideas of items to put in the box could include: baby photos, baby clothes, parents wedding photos, family photos, special toys, any medals or certificates they have achieved, any equipment / uniform/kit linked to any clubs they attend. Anything that is special to your child can be put into the box. Again it is important to talk with your child about the things they have chosen to help them when they are sharing these items with the rest of the class.

Reading

Our usual system is in place for changing books (time permitting!), which means that every child will be given a new book on a Monday and Thursday as long as the book has been read at home. Please ensure that you sign the reading record every time you read with your child and make a note once the book is finished. We will begin sending out Fred cards again when we start learning the Set 2 sounds. We will be recapping Set 1 sounds for the first couple of weeks back in school. Please practise reading the sounds and words each night on the Fred card. Children should 'Fred Talk' the sounds and then blend the sound to read each word. It is important that children practise the skill of blending sounds constantly in order to help them progress with their reading. Please do not panic if your child is not blending yet, practice really does make perfect!

Topic

Our topic this half term is 'Around the World'. We will be looking at the 7 Continents of the world with a specific focus on Europe (in particular our local area and London), Africa (in particular Kenya), Asia (focusing on China) and Antarctica. For each continent that we focus on we will be having a key text linked. We will spend time comparing where we live to the different places in the world looking at weather, people, houses and homes and family traditions. We will explore foods from around the world and be introduced to maps of the world and our local area. We will listen to music and look at art from the different places that we will visit and have lots of opportunities to create our own pieces of art work. We will continue to practise key skills such as recognising and writing our names. Attempting to write simple words and sentences independently and blending sounds to read simple words. We will continue to practise getting ourselves dressed and undressed - with a particular focus on putting on our own coat, shoes and socks.

The medium term plan on the Reception page gives an overview of the objectives that we will be focussing on throughout our topic however we will cover a range of objectives throughout that are not classed as focus objectives.

As always, we will follow the children's lead, and will plan activities based around their interests. Children will continue to learn through play and will begin to take part in more adult focus activities as the term progresses.

You can help your child by:

- ☺ Reading with your child every evening for a few minutes
- ☺ Talking to him/her about their school work and show an interest
- ☺ Exploring our topic at home - researching different countries, finding out about holidays children have been on in the past or places in the world parents may have visited.
- ☺ Practice their phonics and tricky words at home everyday.
- ☺ Encouraging children to get dressed and undressed independently - in particular attempting to put on their own coat, hat and scarf!

We hope that this information gives you a clear idea of what your child will be doing in school this term and how you can help them at home. If you have any items at home that will support our learning in school, please send them in but clearly label them first so we can return them, thank you.

If you have any questions please email us using the reception email.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs L Portman and Mrs C Harris
(Reception Class Teachers)