

Curriculum Report to Parents/Carers Reception Classes - Summer Term 2024

Welcome back to the final and very exciting term of the year. Our topics this term are Minibeasts and Water.



Literacy

This term we will continue teaching phonics in small groups on a daily basis. We will also continue to read a variety of different books related to our topics, including traditional stories, rhymes and non-fiction. We will be starting by looking at *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* written by Eric Carle, followed by a wider range of non-fiction books (*What's inside a Caterpillar Cocoon*, *Bug Hotel*, *The Spider and the Fly*) relating to minibeasts. We will be encouraging your child to use index and contents pages to find out facts. Based on these texts, your child will continue to develop their independent writing through focused writing activities. We will provide lots of opportunities for the children to write during their independent play.



Writing is a focus this term as the Early Learning Goal requires the children to write readable sentences by the end of the Reception year. We hope the majority of children will achieve this goal but we really need your help to develop writing skills. Please help your child with their letter formation and encourage them to write around their own interests. For example, children could draw a picture of Spiderman and describe him in a sentence such as "Spiduman can clim bildings". **Children must make their own attempts** at sounding out and spelling. Words should be readable but we would **not** expect every word to be spelled correctly.

How you can help: PATCH folders

Children will continue to choose books to take home to share with parents, brothers, sisters, etc. Please remember to listen to your child read every day, as this reinforces what they learn in school. Encourage your child to sound out unfamiliar words. If a child finds a particular word tricky, ask them to read the other words in the sentence and predict what the tricky word might be. Suggest looking at the pictures for clues. After they have read the book, ask your child if they can recall the main ideas or events in the story in sequence. Read together with your child when they are comfortable and relaxed. It should be fun! Help your child to love books. Read a book to them at bedtime.

Read with your child at every opportunity, not only books, but cereal packets, signs, symbols and anything else your child is interested in.

The library is a great place to visit. It has a good selection of children's books for you to borrow and read with your child and it is free! We will not visit as a class in the summer term, but will visit the school library for a session with our school librarian. Look out for books with minibeasts and water themes. Make learning fun and exciting - your interest and enthusiasm will stimulate your child to learn. Most important of all, talk to your child and encourage them to ask questions.

Homework will continue to be sent home on Fridays. Please spend some time supporting your child with this and return it by the following Tuesday.

Mathematics

In order to meet age-related expectations, children should be able to count reliably with numbers from 1 to at least 20, place them in order and say which number is one more and one less than a given number. They should also be able to add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on and back to find the answer. We will also be solving problems that include doubling, halving and sharing, and number bonds to ten.

How to Help

- Counting regularly to at least 50 with your child.
- Learn number facts, such as doubles and number bonds
- Practise sequencing numbers and write them down, using correct formation.
- Ask your child to say numbers shown to them out of sequence
- Involve your child in cooking. Weighing and measurement are excellent ways of developing your child's interest in number skills.
- Talk about time and money when you are out shopping or travelling on the bus or tube.
- Look for repeating patterns when you are out and about. What would come next in the pattern?
- Develop their understanding of shapes by searching for them in everyday items around the home - such as windows, doors, plates, etc.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

As the term progresses, we will begin the process of preparing your child for the transition to Year 1. Reception children will join the older year groups in the main playground during lunchtime play.

Understanding the World



The term will be full of exciting learning based around minibeasts and their habitats. We will be focusing on:

- Observation Skills - Looking at animals and plants and explaining why some things occur and talking about changes.
- Understanding the similarities and differences of living things.
- The lives and life cycles of butterflies, ants, worms, frogs and birds.
- Classification skills - sorting minibeasts into sets e.g. legs, wings etc.
- The Water Cycle.
- The sea and sea creatures.

Technology

The interactive whiteboards in classrooms are used on a daily basis to reinforce the children's learning in ICT. The children will also have access to iPads and a range of resources which in part form their introduction to 'coding' which will be developed further as your child moves through the school.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will focus on making large and small-scale models and pictures of minibeasts using a variety of materials. We will be making fat balls for our outside bird feeder.

Physical Development

We are focussing on developing the children's fine and gross motorskills. It is really important that the children start to develop good handwriting skills at this point. We will develop hand/eye coordination by focusing on throwing and catching skills. In the outside area your child is encouraged to use a range of equipment such as beanbags, quoits, hoops, balls and bats. We also regularly follow the 5-a-day fitness programme.

Save the Date

Yellow Class and Green Class joint Assembly on Wednesday 26th June
Sports Day at Highgate Woods on Friday 12th July

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to a member of the Reception Team at the end of the school day. We are here to support you and your child.

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