

Spring Term in Reception

This half term our topic is, '**Is it just rubbish?**' The children will be focusing on what we can do to respect and look after our environment. They will be introduced to the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The children will get the opportunity to create their own recycle superhero with its own catchphrase. The topic continues with the children exploring why some animals are endangered because of changes in their environment and what we can do to help. Next half term our topic is, '**Who are the real superheroes?**' In this topic we will investigate all the different ways we come into contact with people in various professions. During the topic, we will be inviting visitors to Reception to talk about their jobs and how they help us. We will also be taking a trip to Ashford Library. Alongside this, we will be learning the personal, social and emotional aspects of being in Reception class (such as sharing resources and being a good friend), developing good speaking and listening skills, gross and fine motor skills, and learning how to stay healthy and safe. We will also be continuing with the FFT synthetics phonics programme and this term we will be focusing on digraphs and trigraphs. The children will continue to build on their bank of red words. You can access all the resources on the FFT Parent Portal <https://parents.fft.org.uk/> to help support your child's phonics and early reading.

Literacy

Children will be taught to hear, read and write the new FFT sounds as well as revise the sounds that they have already learnt. They will apply their knowledge to segment and blend simple words during adult-directed and independent activities.

Useful Websites

<https://parents.fft.org.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>

For learning about why and how we use cued Articulation watch:

<http://www.soundsforliteracy.co.uk/cued-articulation.html>

How can you help?

- ✓ Reading with your child every day and filling in their records.
- ✓ Helping your child to form letter shapes and write words.
- ✓ Encouraging them to count, recognise numbers to 20.
- ✓ Name and describe 2D and 3D shapes.
- ✓ Doing simple addition and subtraction in everyday situations.
- ✓ Talking about time, money, position, weight, size, capacity and distance to compare and solve problems.

Home learning

This includes reading their reading books, word bags, a maths, literacy or topic based activity.

Maths

Number

- Subitising, counting, recognising, writing and ordering numbers to 20
- Learning ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd etc)
- Completing simple subtraction & addition calculations
- Problem solving
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>
- Comparing weights, heights and lengths
- Talking about time and money

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Keeping myself safe including:

- Asking for help
- Keeping healthy
- Staying safe around medicines

Respecting and looking after our resources in the classroom/outside area.

Making friends and cooperative play linked to our school value- friendships.

Communication and Language

- Listening and responding to ideas expressed by others in conversation or discussion.
- Listening attentively to stories, anticipating key events, and commenting on what they've heard.
- Maintaining attention, concentration and sitting quietly during carpet time.
- Following a story without pictures or props
- Developing narrative and vocabulary through play.

Physical Development

- Travelling with confidence and skill in a range of different ways.
- Forming recognisable letters and numbers.
- Using a pencil, and other tools, effectively.
- Considering ways to keep healthy and safe, eat healthy foods and look after our bodies.
- Developing how to manage basic hygiene and personal care needs themselves successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

Expressive Art and Design

- How to use paintbrushes, tempura paint blocks, pencils, pens, and modelling materials effectively.
- Using various materials to make, draw and paint various people who help us and animals.
- Using joining skills to reuse objects and give them a new purpose
- How to use detail and colour to make art look more realistic
- Mixing colours
- Rhythm in music and dance
- Spring and animal songs
- Music from around the world

Understanding the World

- Interacting with various people who help us to learn about different occupations in fun and practical ways (for example; fire fighters, doctors, nurses, vets, and police officers)
- Learning about our environment including Recycle, Reuse, and Reduce.
- Joining in with some different customs that occur this term (e.g. Chinese New Year, St Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day, Easter, etc.)
- Developing their ICT skills in the computer suite
- Special places and special stories (RE)

Other useful information about Reception

Book Bags

Please make sure that your child has a Clarendon book bag that they bring their books in every day. When each child has a book bag, we can ensure that they go home with their reading books, and any leaflets, each day. Please can you also **not** put drinks or toys in their book bag. Please encourage your child to put their own coat and other personal items away each morning as this will help improve their independence.

Cold Weather and clothing

A large part of our curriculum is conducted outdoors so please can you ensure that your child has a coat every day, which is ideally warm and waterproof in this weather. Please can you also make sure that all coats, gloves, scarves and hats are named. Can you also check your child's jumper, and write over any fading names. PE lessons are usually on Fridays. Please make sure all PE t-shirts and shorts are named, as well as school shoes, plimsolls, socks and tights. Please check that your child's plimsolls fit properly and are not too small or too large.

People who help us

In the last week of the spring term Reception will be continuing to learn about who our real life super heroes are. As a fabulous finish to our topic the children will get the chance to dress up as a person who helps us (Doctor, Fire fighter, police officer, librarian, teacher, shop assistant etc.) **so please look out for any costumes your child may like to wear.** We will confirm the date nearer the time.

Home learning

Home learning is such a vital part of a child's education and reinforcing their learning. Home learning goes out on a Friday and is due back in on Wednesday. Please can you ensure your child is completing their home learning by doing their own writing. Please come and talk to us if you have any issues with completing the home learning. We are here to help, and please remember, home learning should be fun!

Reading

It is so important at this stage that children read their reading books regularly. Please try and hear your child read for at least 10 minutes every day. Please can you sign the yellow reading record when you have read with your child, any brief comments about how your child read the book, or about any questions/conversations about the book that you had with your child are very useful for our continual assessment. Reading books are changed every Monday and records are checked and updated. However, book bags should be brought into school every day so that we can read with the children at every available opportunity. If you would like to pop in in the morning for 15 minutes to read with Reception children we would be very grateful and the children love it.

NB: Register is taken at 8.45am.

Remember- if your child reads at least 4 times each week they receive a raffle ticket and entry into Mr Neale's book raffle.

Donations

We are in need of spare socks, boys pants and boys trousers, if you have a clear out please send in any you no longer need. Thank you.