

Summer Term in Reception

This half term our topic is 'How does your garden grow?' In which we will be thinking about how plants, fruit and vegetables grow in the environment and how to take care of them. Next half term our topic is 'Who is at the ugly bug ball?' where we will be learning about the features of living things such as animals, humans and mini-beasts and life cycles. Alongside this we will continue to learn the personal, social, and emotional aspects of being in Reception class (such as independent learning challenges and introducing the idea of the transition to Year 1), 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. Thank you for all the support you have given us, and your child, over the last term. Please remember that we are here if you have any worries, questions or concerns, no matter how small you think they are. We are here to ensure that your child is happy at Clarendon.

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.

To meet the Early Learning Goal at the end of Reception, children are expected to be able to:

- Write recognisable letters
- Write words, simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others
- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs
- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them
- Read aloud words, simple sentences & books

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Making healthy choices & being persistent including:

- Feel resilient and confident in their learning.
- Name and discuss different types of feelings and emotions.
- Learn and use strategies or skills in approaching challenges.

How can you help?

- ✓ Reading with your child and signing/making comments in their reading book at least 4 times per week
- ✓ Helping your child to write phonetically plausible words and sentences (only focussing on spelling red words correctly)
- ✓ Making words with their word bags everyday
- ✓ Encouraging them to halve, double and share objects
- ✓ Learn number bonds to 5 and some bonds to 10
- ✓ Counting on and back in addition and subtraction using everyday situations. Working out one more and one less.
- ✓ Talking about simple mathematical problems.

Useful Websites

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk>

Communication and Language

- Listening attentively in a range of different situations.
- Giving attention to what others say and responding appropriately whilst engaged in another activity.
- Expressing themselves effectively showing awareness of the listeners' needs.
- Using past, present, and future forms when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.
- Developing narrative and explanations.
- Following instructions involving several ideas or actions.
- Answering 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

Maths

Number

- counting, subitising, recognising, writing, and ordering numbers to 20
- Counting on and back in subtraction and addition sums to 20
- One more and one less than a number to 20
- problem solving

Shape, Space and Measure

- halving, doubling, and sharing

Physical Development

- Developing good control and co-ordination in large and small movements.
- Moving in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.
- Using a pencil, and other tools, effectively.
- Knowing the importance for good health by doing physical exercise and having a healthy diet.
- Managing their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.
- Ways to keep healthy and safe.

Expressive Art and Design

- Painting, chalking, sketching to create representations of things found in our environment.
- Shadow drawings
- Basic percussion
- Still life drawings; looking at using correct colours and small details. Including small drawings of plants and mini beasts.
- Songs about growth, vegetables, animals, looking after our world, etc.
- Role-play farms, bughouse, growing, jungle, beach, etc.

Understanding the World

- Animal habitats and lifecycles.
- Floating and sinking.
- Joining in with some different customs that occur this term (e.g., St Georges Day, Wesak, etc.)
- Computing skills.
- Different environments living things live in and adapt to.
- How the environment and animals have evolved.
- Life cycles of butterflies, frogs, and plants.

Other useful information about Reception

The British Weather

As the British weather is a little unpredictable, please send your child into school with a coat (or raincoat) every day, as they spend a lot of time learning outside.

When the weather is sunny, please apply some 'day long' lasting sunscreen before they come to school.

We also advise that your child wear a Clarendon sun hat/cap, which is clearly named.

We will ensure shade is available and children will spend a limited amount of time in the outdoor area if the sun is particularly hot.

Please ensure your child brings a named bottle of fresh water daily, these can be refilled as often as necessary throughout the day.

Shoes and footwear

Please check your child's wellies and plimsolls are still the correct size, some of them will have begun to outgrow them by now! Please bear in mind that children need to wear black school shoes (not trainers, plimsolls, sandals, flip flops, Crocs or any other open toed or slip-on type of footwear.)

We need spare boys' trousers/joggers/shorts. If you have a clear out, please send in any you no longer need. Thank you.

Going to Year One

We have a transition programme where your child will spend some time in Year One to get used to the environment and new teacher. It would be helpful if you could also talk to your child about moving to Year One. Some children find the prospect of leaving Reception daunting and will need some reassurance. These fears are quite normal, but please discuss any concerns with us. Minor issues can often be dealt with before they become major ones!

End of the Foundation Stage

As you are aware, we have been completing assessments of your child since they began at Clarendon. These are national assessments required by the government and largely take the form of observations; you will receive a copy of your child's final assessments with their report.

Thank you!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support since September. We have had a wonderful year with your fantastic children and will miss them all next year! They have been a super class, and you should all be immensely proud of them.