



## Year Reception Newsletter Summer Term 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break. Here is some information about the Summer Term which I hope you will find useful.

We will continue to offer a wide range of play-based learning opportunities in Class F, adding in more focussed teaching sessions geared towards Reception each morning and afternoon. Our topic for this term is: '**Big things.**' We will explore different aspects of the topic each week. During the term we will cover these themes:

### First half of term

- The sea
- Growing
- Monsters
- The woods
- Big machines

### Second half of term

- Giants
- The sun
- The beach
- Towers
- Size
- When I grow up
- Space
- Summer holidays

### **Phonics**

Following a careful assessment of the children's grasp of Phase 3 over the last couple of weeks of last term, we have now started work on Phase 4. By now, most of the children will be able to represent each of the 42 most common phonemes or sounds of the English language and can combine those to read and write simple words. Your child has these as sound cards in their book bags to refer to and practice at home. Many children have also made excellent progress in learning to read and, in several cases, write the tricky words in their net bags – start by letting them copy them, then move to showing each one for a few seconds before hiding it while they try to write it from memory, then finally say the word for them to write entirely from memory.

Phase 4 aims to:

- Recap all the previously learned graphemes and tricky words.
- Learn how to read and write words which use adjacent consonants eg **stop, lost, frost, clock**, etc.
- Learn to read and write the next 14 tricky words, and
- Increase their confidence in reading and writing sentences, using their growing phonic expertise, their knowledge of tricky words, a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.

### **Other Literacy**

We will continue to make sure that all our work has a strong focus on speaking, listening and developing vocabulary. Also, as before we will be encouraging reading with fluency and understanding, so when reading with your child, you might like to ask your child simple questions about the text e.g. who were the characters in the story? What was the problem? You may also like to get your child to re-read a sentence more fluently once they have worked out what it says. As part of our topic on 'Big things' we will give more opportunities to write for a purpose during our afternoon topic work e.g. writing information sentences about sea creatures, writing simple instructions on how to plant a seed, creating information books about big machines etc.

### **Maths**

Maths in the EYFS is very much concerned with laying the foundations for later Maths learning so we will be continuing to develop a thorough understanding of the numbers 0 – 20 by:

- developing a secure image of the value of numbers,
- comparing and matching groups of objects,
- doing simple addition and subtraction to solve practical problems,
- using the - + = signs to record addition and subtraction number sentences,
- counting forwards and backwards to find answers to real life questions,
- solving practical problems involving doubling, halving and sharing,
- finding one more and one less, spotting what number is missing, and
- ensuring that numbers are written correctly.

We will also look at higher numbers using a 100 square and continue to learn to count forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s and 10s. Again, any counting, number writing or number problems practice you wish to do at home will be very much appreciated.

The children will also be developing their use of everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects to solve problems. They will continue to work on their 2D and 3D shape knowledge to name and describe a range of shapes as well as using them to build models and create patterns.

### **Computing**

In Class F we continue to give the children regular opportunities to develop their computing skills in meaningful ways, through easy access to the computers, Beebots, Sound Pegs, CD players and cameras, as well as through the use of telephones, mobiles, video cameras etc. in their role play.

### **Music**

As before, in addition to regular adult-led sessions, music is part of our continuous provision. It tends to be a very sociable activity which allows children to play and/or sing in a group or on their own in front of peers, take turns and follow instructions. Children engage in active learning by playing song games and instruments, exploring sounds and learning sound association. They also have opportunities to experiment and dance with ribbons, instruments and scarves both inside and outside of the classroom.

### **PE**

In addition to their PE sessions with the red jumper children on Monday and Friday mornings, Reception children have an additional session with Mrs Heard on Wednesday afternoons. Please could the Reception children have their PE kit in school for Wednesday's lesson – shorts/jogging bottoms, royal blue t-shirt and trainers or plimsolls. **All jewellery including earrings must be removed for these lessons.**

For the second half of the term our swimming pool will be re-opened and Class F will be swimming three times a week on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon. More details will be sent out nearer the time. We are also going to have Amy from Streetz in to learn some street dancing for one of our PE sessions in the second half of term.

### **Understanding the World/Expressive Arts and Design**

As I mentioned above, our topic this term is 'Big things'. We will cover this broadly in the morning sessions in Class F, and then develop some themes more deeply during the afternoons. This will allow the Reception children to extend the topic through activities in Science, Art, Design Technology, History and Geography.

### **Homework**

The main homework in Class F will continue to be reading and learning to read and spell our tricky words, along with any help you are able to give with handwriting, numeral writing and counting skills. We aim to change the children's books once a week and are always interested to hear how they get on with you at home, so please let us know through the Home-School Diaries in the book bags. These can also be used to pass on any questions that you may have, if you think that you might not have chance to speak to us in the morning

Please do look on Class Dojo to see photos of what the children have been doing in class each week.

We will be sending home **our annual reports towards the end of term** but are always happy to speak with you at the beginning or end of the day – please come and talk to us if you have any questions at all. If it is not just a convenient moment, we are always able to make an appointment to meet later.

At the end of term we will be going on a school trip to Rosemoor Gardens. More details will follow nearer the time.

Finally, as the weather, (hopefully) begins to warm up, please apply sun cream to your child before they come to school as necessary. Please send in sun cream clearly labelled with your child's name so they are able to re-apply more throughout the day as needed. Your child is also welcome to bring in their own sun hat to wear during their time spent in our garden or during play times on the field/playground. Please make sure your child's hat has their name in it. Don't worry if your child forgets a sun hat, we have a huge boxful which they can borrow one from for the day. We have water and milk available throughout the day to ensure your child stays hydrated.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Bellew