

Reception Spring 2 Term Topic Letter

I hope you all had a lovely holiday and enjoyed the amazing warm Spring-like weather.

Topic : Fantasy stories

Literacy: We will be listening to lots of different fantasy stories starting with 'Whatever next' by Jill Murphy, then on to 'How to catch a star' by Oliver Jeffers, 'Aliens in underpants' and 'Here come the Aliens' to name a few. For the few weeks of this space theme topic we will be learning lots of new facts about space so any relevant books are welcome into school for your child to show and talk about. We will then look at a power of reading book called 'Argh Spider' by Lydia Monks and move on to historical facts about castles and knights. When Spring is well on its way we will grow beans linking nicely with 'Jack and the beanstalk' and then we will discuss all aspects of Easter.

We will ask where?, why?, who? and what? questions in all areas of learning and researching how to find out information through books and the internet. Our nearest castle is Wentworth castle which has a great play park castle if you fancy visiting a real one. Here are some useful words to talk to your child about to help them with the topic: comet, Earth, Asteroid, Space Station, Sun, Planet, Moon, Astronaut, rocket.

Phonics : Some of these digraphs ay, ee, igh, ow, oo (vowel sounds), ar, air, oy, ou will be used in our daily writing and we will begin to form simple sentences by segmenting words using our 'Fred fingers' so we can spell them. We can then start to write little sentences such as "I saw a moon", "He saw a red planet" etc. The children are now blending sounds to read words and as such we are starting to work on the comprehension of reading so the children will enjoy the pleasure of books. In school they are reading Ditty books or Story Books at your child's level at least three times a week; thanks to our volunteers who come every week. Please continue reading to your child at home. It really helps their confidence, enjoyment and ability and vocabulary.

Maths: we are currently working on:

- Saying number names in order to 50 then 100
- Recognising and ordering numbers to 20
- Counting reliably up to 10 objects and beyond
- Relating addition by combining two groups
- Number bonds to 10 (5+5 6+4) Numicon is really useful for this.
- Find one more or less than a number from 1-20
- Pattern and direction (forwards, backwards, behind, in front, under, over)
- Looking at the passing of time, night and day and days of the week.
- Weighing and measuring, comparing different weights and lengths.
- Doubling and halving numbers to 10 using fingers.

Creative: In art and creativity, we will explore different colour mixing to make different shades of the same colour. We will also be designing characters using and combining different media to make things.

Outside: We will observe the changes in the season looking at the weather, building shelters and many other child-directed activities. We will also continue our child-led programme of activities during forest school sessions.

ICT: We will be using technology to programme and move toys also using coordination and remote control to move cars.

P.E: the children will be using the big apparatus and will also enjoy dance sessions. PE is on Thursdays and Fridays. Please ensure your child has their named PE kit in school on those days

PSHE: We are continually looking at supporting the children to form positive relationships with each other, improving their self-awareness and confidence and helping them manage their feelings and behavior.

Reading books: Reading books will be changed once a week on a Wednesday. Please record when you read with your child at home in their reading diaries, and have these at school daily, along with reading books and book bags. Please continue listening to your child read every day if possible. Little and often, and continue to read to them.

Water bottles: Please ensure your child brings their bottle to school each day, thank you.

Baking money- If you haven't already contributed, it is £5 for the whole of the Spring term until Easter.

Useful dates:

7th March World Book Day.

15th March Red Nose Day.

21st March Family sharing straight after school.

8th April – Open learning day from 2pm.

Week commencing 8th April inviting parents/grandparents into school to work 1-1 on an art project with your child. It will take about one hour.

8th,9th or 12th April slots will be available 9-10am

Thank you again to all our Volunteer's, we really appreciate the time you give to the children and thank you for your continued support at home.

Mrs Oddy and Mrs Hemingway, Miss Watkins (Wednesday)