

Life in Reception

Life in Reception continues to be very busy at this time of year. The children are settled in well now and are making lots of progress in all areas. As the weather stays cold, we encourage you to work with your child on becoming more independent and encouraging them to have a go getting ready on their own and fastening up their own coat.

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year this half term, this year is the year of the tiger. The children will have the opportunity to taste Chinese food and learn all about the traditions of Chinese New Year.

Phonics

The children have worked SO hard during the first term during phonics. They have learnt lots of new sounds and lots of high-frequency words.

This half term, we will learn the following two extra sounds: x and y.

In a couple of weeks time, we will begin to look at words which have 4 sounds and we will hopefully spend the last week before February half term beginning to look at words with... 5 sounds!! There will be no new sound knowledge for the children as they will use their previously learnt sounds to build words with 4/5 sounds such as **frog**, **jump**, **twist** and **drink**.

We will be learning the following high-frequency words:

come, some and **to**

Please read with your child at least 4 times per week as this makes a HUGE positive impact to their phonics knowledge.

Numeracy

Our new unit in maths is called 'Alive in 5'. We will explore the composition of numbers 4 and 5. There will be a HUGE emphasis on Number Bonds to 5... we would love it if you watched Jack Hartmann's number bonds to 5 song on YouTube at home. We will also look at making predictions whilst exploring mass and capacity.

Half-way through this half term, we will start another unit called 'Growing 6, 7, 8'. Just like prior learning, we will look at the composition of these numbers. We will look at pairs and will develop our understanding that a pair is a 2. We will look at combining two groups together to find how many there is altogether. We will end this unit by looking at length, height and time.

Literacy

In English this half term we are starting an exciting new topic...Traditional Tales. We will listen to stories such as The Little Red Hen and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We will use our story maps to help us retell the stories and we will even have a go writing on our own.

As a class we will innovate the story of The Little Red Hen and we will make our very own pizzas following instructions.

Thank you for your continued support!

Understanding the World

Our topic this half term is 'People who help us' We will start the topic by talking about what jobs our parents/family members do. Please talk to your children about the jobs you or other family members do, this will give the children the confidence to share some experiences which are familiar to them. We will also think about the jobs which we want to do when we grow up!!!

It is a difficult time to invite visitors into school at the moment, but during this topic we usually invite the police, fire and ambulance service in to talk to the children about their very important roles in the community. We hope this will still go ahead in the coming weeks.

We are also going to look at police officers, fire fighters and doctors and nurses from the past. We will look at the clothes they wear and the vehicles they have used and talk about what has changed and what has stayed the same.



R.E

We have started our brand new unit, Celebrations. We will talk about various celebrations such as Christmas, birthdays and New Year's Eve. During our visit to Church last half-term, we all noticed the stained glass windows and will decorate our own whilst talking about the Parish Family. We will look at The Presentation Story and will re-enact the story together. We always end each unit with a collective worship.

We will also begin a new unit, Gathering. We will play games that require the support of others which will show us how we must always support and encourage other people. We will discuss what happens during gathering together at mass.

Reminder

Please ensure your child's reading book, is returned to school on their reading day:

Monday - Red Group

Tuesday - Yellow Group

Wednesday - Green Group

Thursday - Blue Group

Friday - Purple Group

Homework is due every Monday.

Home school diaries are due every Wednesday.

Thank you for your continued support!