



# Reception Newsletter



## Autumn 2—2023/2024

### **Notices and Reminders**

Please ensure that your child brings their reading book and reading record to school every day.

**PE will start on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Children will need to wear their PE kit to school on this day.**

### **Communication and Language**

In communication and language, we will be focusing on joining in with story times. We will also be learning about questions and starting to ask and answer how and why questions. We will also be building confidence and encouraging children to speak in front of the class to talk about their interests.



### **Physical Development**

In P.E. we will develop our gymnastic skills through the topic of 'animals and their habitats'. We will use our knowledge of spatial awareness to create shapes, balances and jumps. We will be learning how to perform these skills safely on the floor and on apparatus.

In our Fine Motor sessions, we will develop our cutting skills to safely use scissors to cut straight and zig zag lines. We will continue to focus on prewriting patterns and the correct formation of letters these are linked to. We practice cutting with a knife when eating our lunch.

### **Key dates**

*OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAYS - 23rd to 27th October*

Mon 4th December 9am - Rocksteady concert for parents of children who have Rocksteady lessons

*CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS - Monday 18th December to Monday 1st January*

Back to school - Tuesday 2nd January 2024

*INSET DAY - Monday 15th January 2024*

*INSET DAY - Thursday 28th March 2024*

*Further dates will be added in due course.*

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

This half term in PSHE, the children will continue to develop their independence. This will enable them to try new activities, building their resilience and perseverance when faced with challenges. We shall also focus on developing their ability to work and play cooperatively, beginning to develop the skill of turn taking.

The theme for this half term will be 'Celebrating Difference' focusing on differences and how we are all special in our own way. This will incorporate celebrations and how they differ for different cultures.



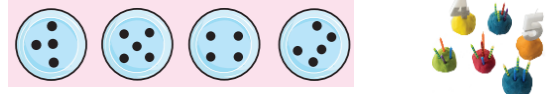
## Literacy

This term we start Phase 3 of ELS. We will finish the last of the single sounds and introduce more digraphs (2 letters that make one sound). More Harder to Read and Spell Words (HRSWs) are also introduced. Remember, these are words that the children cannot sound out.

In Talk for Writing, we will be focusing on traditional tales and using these to build on our knowledge of story language and to understand a story happens in 3 parts (beginning, middle and end). We will also introduce non-fiction and learn some facts about winter.

## Mathematics

The children will learn to identify and name circles, triangles, squares and rectangles in the world around them. We will introduce the words side, curved, straight, corner and flat to describe the properties of these shapes.



We will explore numbers 4 and 5, recognising them in different representations and exploring what smaller numbers they can be composed of. The children will also practise identifying 1 more or less than a number to 5.

## Understanding the World

As part of our topic, we will explore the idea of 'celebration' as an important concept. We will also look at different celebrations and how celebrations can help us learn more about what different people believe. We will also look at 'past and present' and explore how things like toys looked different in the past compared to now. We will also continue our learning about seasons and look at the signs of winter and observe them in our environments.

## Expressive Arts and Design



In music, the children will be learning and performing a range of songs.



In art, the children will be focussing on painting, experimenting with mixing colours and using their knowledge to create Christmas items.



The children will also explore different techniques for joining materials including design create a diva lamp.

## Homework

Please listen to your child read 5 times a week and record this in their reading diary.

## Suggested books for reading

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/books-by-age-and-year-group/ks1/>

