

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome back! We would like to wish you a happy new year! We would like to inform you of what we are doing in Reception Class this half term.

### **Communication & Language**

We will be continuing to work on listening and responding to others. As part of understanding we are going to focus on responding to instructions involving a two-part sequence. You could help your child by giving them 2 simple instructions at one time, e.g.: Could you take your coat off and then put it in the kitchen?

### **Physical Development**

We will begin to increase our focus on writing. As part of this the children will be learning to effectively hold a pencil. We will be doing lots of fine motor activities to help strengthen our hands. You could help your child by playing with things such as playdough, colouring sheets or Google some ideas.

### **Personal, Social & Emotional Development**

To develop our learning within Managing Feelings and Behaviour, we are going to concentrate on negotiation and solving problems without aggression or adult help. You could support your child by talking about strategies (such as what to do when someone takes your toys) and encouraging independence in problem solving.

### **Understanding the World**

Through our topic work we will be learning that information can be found on the computer. You could help your child by using the Google safe search on our school's website to look for information. We will also be talking about changes over time such as how plants grow.

### **Literacy**

This half term we will begin to learn the sounds in 'Phase 3' of the Letters and Sounds phonics document. We will be using the knowledge of sounds to continue to read books and answer questions on what we have read. We will be segmenting words to write them and beginning to write captions and simple sentences.

You could help your child by getting them to help you write shopping lists and by reading their books every week.

## **Reception Spring 1**

### **Mathematics**

This half term we will be continuing to secure numbers to 10. We will begin to explore addition by looking at number bonds to 10 and part-part whole models. We will also be comparing and combining groups of objects.

We will also be learning to use positional language and will also learn to use mathematical language to describe 2D shapes. You could help your child by following the homework each week to gain advice on each skill we learn.

### **Expressive Arts & Design**

This half term will be a big focus on creativity. We will be using the Bluetooth speaker to move in time to music and sing familiar songs. We will also be trying to be more thoughtful in our creations such as how can we make it better? E.g. folding, scrunching, twisting, cutting etc.

### **PE Kits**

PE is every Wednesday. Please remember to bring in your child's PE kit for this half term. It can be kept on their peg and we will send it home before the half term break to be washed.

### **Evidence Me**

We are really pleased to see that some uploads have already been made onto Evidence me. This has helped us to see some of the pupils' 'Wow' moments at home.

Please remember you could use the Evidence Me app for:

- Homework
- Learning at home
- Club achievements (E.g. Football, Gymnastics etc.)
- Special occasions e.g. a birthday or family event
- Anything that makes you think 'Wow'!

### **Reading advice**

#### **Read, read, read!**

Every Tuesday your child will receive their new 'home reading book'. These books are tailored to their phonics knowledge and it is for your child to read to you. It is the school expectation that your child reads at least 5 days a week. Please fill in all you do on the home reading log so that we are able to track this and celebrate children's successes.

Each week if it is clear in your child's home reading log that they have read 5 times they will be entered into the prize draw to win a special book at the end of term, as well as a prize!

#### **Library**

Unfortunately, the school have not been able to get the new library up and running as of yet. We thank you for your patience, we are working on getting this sorted as soon as possible. Luckily, we are fortunate enough to have some brilliant libraries around the local area and the school library service regularly deliver books for us to use in the classroom.



#### **Phonics Friday**

This is a reminder that every Friday we are still running our Phonics Friday sessions. As we continue to learn letter sounds we will be showing you what they are, how to write them and how we use them. It would be great to see as many of you as possible staying to help your child with their learning as they love having you there!

We will regularly keep you informed with our routines, upcoming events and anything you may need to know. However if you have any questions please do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher.

Many thanks! Miss Griffiths and Miss Barrett