

Reception  
Spring Term 2024

Dear All,

Happy New Year and thank you for the warm welcome back. We would like to thank you all for the support you gave the children to perform so brilliantly in our Christmas play 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'. We were all very proud of the children's performances. We would also like to say a very big thank you for the very generous Christmas presents and cards, they were very much appreciated.

This term we begin with the topic 'Fairy Tales'. We will be doing lots of exciting things related to this topic that will be closely linked with the seven areas of learning within the EYFS. We will be reading and enjoying lots of different fairytale stories whilst learning about different characters, settings, story sequences and much more. In the second half of the term we will be learning all about 'People who help us'. In this topic we will learn all about people in the community and that help us with various things. This may include the police, fire service, NHS etc. During this topic we enjoying having visitors into school to share their role with the children so if you have any links with any people in the community that you think would like to come in share, please do let one of us know.

The Children will continue to have Read Write Inc Phonics lessons every day. Please support your child's individual reading at home through short and regular reading sessions and continue to use the Reading Diary as before. It is important to write in the reading diary as it helps to give us a full picture of your child's reading and please let us know how the books are going at home. The children's reading level is regularly assessed and they will move through the scheme as appropriate. The children will continue to bring home 2 books each week providing they have returned their previous week's books. Remember also to read the books allocated to your child on the 'Bug Club' website.

Our work in Maths includes lots of oral work and number games to support the children's learning. We will be continuing to revisit our subitising skills, counting and comparing different amounts along with recognising and recreating patterns. We will focus on spatial thinking, ordering and estimating and regrouping.

Optional Maths homework is set each week on Fridays on Google Classroom. The homework tasks will include worksheets, games and online activities. They are designed to consolidate work covered in our class Maths lessons.

P.E. will continue to take place on a Thursday in addition to our daily run. **The children will now be changing into their P.E kit in school. They will need to bring their P.E kit into school in a named bag and this bag will stay at school this half term.** The children should bring in Maple PE kit, trainers and an appropriate tracksuit if necessary – either a plain and unbranded tracksuit top and bottom, or a Maple school hoodie and suitable leggings/jogging bottoms. No football team or high fashion tracksuits should be worn. Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly named.

**Reminders:**

- Please ensure that all your child's items of clothing are named, especially cardigans and jumpers.
- The children can bring in a pair of wellies to keep at school if you would like them to and these will be used when we take our learning outside and during our Forest School lessons (Tuesday afternoons).

- The children often work outside during the course of the day so they should be sent in with a warm/waterproof coat and appropriate footwear every day; we recommend trainers or sturdy shoes (no sandals or crocs please).
- Please send your child with their **book bag everyday** as this is used for their books, any letters, information or pieces of work.
- **Named** Water Bottles must come to school every day – these will be sent home **every night** for a good wash and need to come back into school **every morning with fresh water**.
- If your child would like to bring in their own snack, please ensure this is only a small piece/ pot of fruit or vegetable.
- **Library** – The children will continue to visit the school library on a Thursday and they will get to choose a book to take home for 1 week. Please make sure the library book is kept in the bag so they can swap it during their library visit.
- We have provided your child with a reading book wallet for them to keep all their reading books and diary in. Please ensure this wallet along with the books is in the book bag every day.
- **If your child is going home with someone different from normal, please can you let one of us know or email the office. We use a password system for when somebody other than yourselves is collecting your child.**
- If there is any relevant information we should know that may affect your child's behaviour or mood in school (such as if a parent is away on business, a grandparent is poorly, a pet has died or changes in your home situation) please could you let us know as this helps us respond appropriately to them.
- **'Show and Tell'** will continue to take place on a **Friday**. This provides an opportunity for your child to bring into school items such as souvenirs and photos from visits, models they have made, a book or game they like to use at home, so they can share their outside experiences with the class. Please ensure your child is prepared to talk about their item and answer questions from the children. We ask however that they do not bring in toys. A rota will be attached and put on google classroom.
- We will be continuing to use Google Classroom to set optional homework tasks and communicating group messages and reminders to parents.
- Please continue to look on your child's Tapestry account to view their learning journey and make any contributions of new learning you have observed at home.

We would like to invite you into the classroom to spend some time with your child sharing their work and reading a story together. This will take place for the last 15 minutes of the day (3.00-3.15) on **Friday 2nd February** and **Wednesday 13th March**.

#### **Dates for Diary:**

Parent Teacher Consultations - Tuesday 13th February and Thursday 15th February

Special Events Week - Friday 22nd March - Thursday 28th March - letter to follow

Share and Read sessions - Friday 2nd February and Wednesday 13th March

We are always happy to discuss any issues with you, so feel free to contact us and we can arrange a mutually convenient time to meet. Thank you for your cooperation and support. We look forward to a fun and busy term ahead.

With thanks

Mrs Hitchcock, Miss Baylis and the Reception Team