



## Viaduct Federation of Schools

### Reception Spring 2 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

The children are now halfway through their first year at school. We are so pleased with how much they have achieved. They have enjoyed learning through our topics during our child-initiated learning. They have made great progress through our Maths, Literacy, Phonics, Topic and Handwriting sessions.

The children are now familiar with our school incentives including the Community Coin, Star Stickers, and Rainbow Certificates. These are great motivators for the children to do their best at learning and to be kind.

Brilliant work FS2 children! We hope you have enjoyed your well-deserved break!

## Foundation

## Subject Overviews

### Stage 2

### Teachers



Mrs Bennett- Head of FS



Mrs Polmear- Dolphin Class



Miss Ahmed- Penguin Class

#### Writing

As well as writing individual words, we will be practising how to write simple phrases and sentences. Children will learn 'sentence rules', including capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We ask the children to practise holding the sentence in their heads so they can remember what needs to be written. It can then be read back to make sure it makes sense when they have finished. We have been really impressed with how the children's handwriting is improving by learning how to add flicks and loops to letters ready for joining up words in KS1. Twice weekly handwriting lessons ensure that letter formation is practised, and this includes holding pencils correctly. We use the 'nip', 'flip' and 'grip' technique which your child could demonstrate to you!

#### Reading

The children are working hard in their RWI groups. It is now a familiar start to each day and is important that children arrive in time to start the lesson at 8.35am. We continue to read words by sight and by using our 'Fred Talk'. The children can show you what to do, using their pointing and sliding finger to read words. We have been spotting our 'special friends' sounds in words too; for example, 'sh', 'ch', 'qu', 'ng' and 'nk.' We revise our 'tricky words' during our RWI and English sessions daily and the children are beginning to recognise and read them by sight much quicker. Many children are beginning to read simple sentences independently. Supporting your child with reading at home is essential and the books they take home are matched to their RWI groups which are reviewed each half term. Please write in your child's reading record when you have read at home.

#### Maths

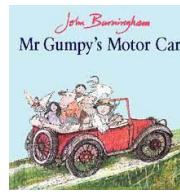
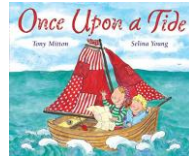
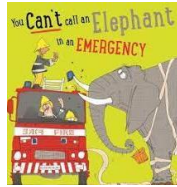
This half term we will be looking at comparing numbers up to 10. We will apply our understanding of more and fewer to compare bigger and smaller numbers. We will learn about number bonds with numbers up to 10. We will be working practically to build number to 10 and beyond using a tens frame and Numicon to help us.

The children will be learning the correct vocabulary to enable them to compare the length and height of objects. They will compare and order items they will try and find the tallest, longest and shortest. We will begin to learn about the concept of time and use words related to time such as now, then, before, later, soon and after. Children will continue to learn about and name some 3D shapes.

## Subject Overviews continued

### Topic

This half term our topic will be 'Journeys'. As part of this topic, we will be reading a range of books which involve different types of transportation and venturing into different countries. The stories we will be looking at can be seen below. Some of these may be familiar or new to the children. Some of the areas of learning we will cover through our topic work will be - exploring different cultures and landmarks, comparing cars from the past to present day cars. During Continuous Provision time the children will explore the stories through role play, small world, construction and the creative area.



Mrs Kirk– Penguin Class



Mrs Lloyd–  
Seal Class



Miss R Arscott–  
Seal Class

### Personal Social and Emotional

The children understand and follow routines and school rules. They are able to say when they like and don't like something and give reasons why. They listen beautifully to their friends during whole class discussions and circle times. During growth mind set sessions, they will discuss perseverance through stories. They will talk about how they meet challenges and how they can support each other.

### Communication and Language

The children will continue to become confident when speaking in different situations. They will practice responding to questions with relevant ideas. They will continue to develop their own explanations for why things happen. They will identify and describe new vocabulary learned through our topics and use this new vocabulary in their own conversations.

### Physical Development

Our pencil grip has improved so much since September but this half term we will reinforce the correct grip and practise our letter and number formation. In our weekly PE sessions, our focus will be dance and movement linked to our topic. We will experiment with different ways of moving in relation to emotion.

### Music

The children will be exploring sounds of different volume. Using body percussion and instruments we will compose music to describe a storm with quieter and louder sounds. We will have a session called Tap Talk and use vocal effects to describe the various sounds of water sources, some being louder than others. The children will also create expressive instrumental sounds to accompany two different stories.

### ICT

Children will continue to use ICT during exploration of their topics. They will use whiteboards to practise their Maths and Literacy skills. They will explore our stories on Ipads using the QR codes to download the stories. They will play topic related games on the interactive whiteboard to reinforce their learning in our topic area. Children will explore programming through logic toys.

## **Understanding the World**

Children will continue to learn about how people in our community help us. They will be able to talk about their different roles in society. Children will learn about the past through the Mr Gumpy's Motorcar story. They will compare cars of the past with modern cars. Children will compare different cultures in stories and recognise different landmarks in some cities in the world through our Emma Jane's aeroplane story. They will talk about floating and sinking during our Once Upon a Tide story. They will learn about Easter and what Christians believe. They will visit a local church in Wolverton and find out what Christians do in a church.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

The children will have the opportunity to design and make their own boat which they can then test. Will they float or sink? During our learning based on the story 'Once Upon a Tide' we will be creating ice lollies using different fruit juices. They will experience several role play set ups; including a safari bus, ice cream shop, travel agents and Police station using props to support their role play.

**Parent Reminder.** Please ensure your child brings in their PE kit the first day of term with labelled clothing. **FS2 have PE every Wednesday.**

## **Homework**

### **Reading**

Please continue to hear your child read and practise red words at home. Try asking your child to explain what is happening in their own words. This will help your child's understanding of the story.

### **Writing**

Practise writing cvc words and phrases and sentences. Remind children to use their Fred fingers when writing words.

### **Maths**

Practise counting group of objects up to 10. Practise number bonds up to 10. Practise counting backward from 20. Challenge your child to start and stop at different numbers. Compare and order objects according to length, height and weight.

### **Topic**

Make a vehicle out of junk modelling. Look at old pictures of different types of transport. Discuss how they have changed over time. Talk about the different seasons, particularly Spring. What happens during Spring? What should the weather be like?

## **Upcoming Events in Spring 2**

- Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day. We will be basing the day around the book *Tilda Tries Again* by Tom Percival. Children can dress in World Book Day related costumes.
- Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March - Comic Relief. We will be holding a non-uniform day
- Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Reception (FS2) Visits
- Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March - Last day of term

# BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

## Did you know we now have a Facebook page?

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!



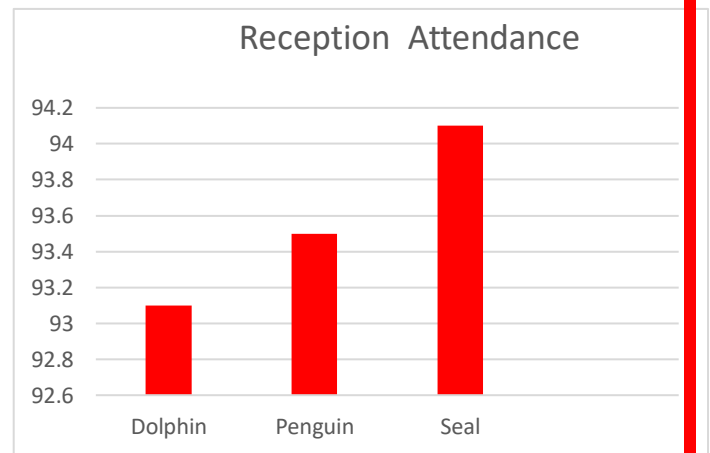
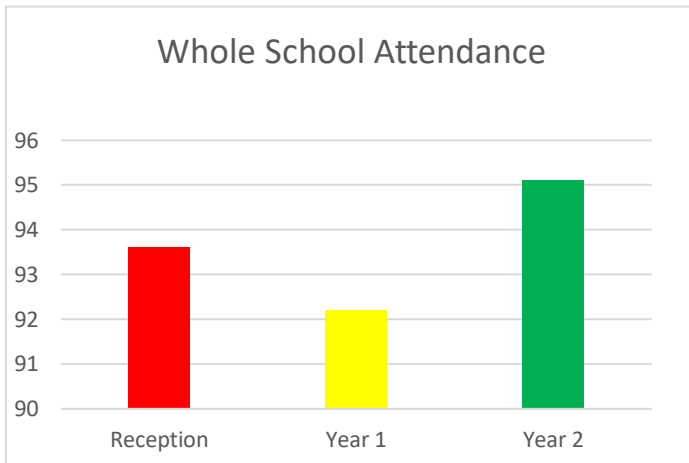


**ATTENDANCE REVIEW**

**SPRING TERM**

**107 possible days this year**

As you know, pupil attendance is very important and is a focus on schools from both the government and the local authority. In terms of our drive to raise awareness, please see below our classes' average attendance. Thank you for all of your efforts to get the children in everyday. Please can we encourage you to keep it up for the next half term.



<p><b>100%</b> attendance 72 days of learning</p> <p><b>0</b> days absent</p> <p><b>EXCELLENT</b> High attendance leads to high achievement and a greater chance of success – Well done!</p>	<p><b>97%</b> attendance 70 days of learning</p> <p><b>2</b> days absent</p>	<p><b>95%</b> attendance 68 days of learning</p> <p><b>4</b> days absent</p>	<p><b>90%</b> attendance 65 days of learning</p> <p><b>7</b> days absent</p>	<p><b>85%</b> attendance 61 days of learning</p> <p><b>11</b> days absent</p>	<p><b>80%</b> attendance 58 days of learning</p> <p><b>14</b> days absent</p>
		<p><b>CONCERNING</b> Poor attendance makes it harder to progress and limits opportunities for success</p>		<p><b>SERIOUS CONCERN</b> Very poor attendance seriously impacts on education and reduces life chances!</p>	

*Be the best you can be.*