



# Reception Spring 1 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parent/Carer

The children have now been in school for a whole term. We are so pleased with how much they have achieved. They have enjoyed learning through our topics during our child initiated learning. The children are now familiar with all of our school incentives including the Community Coin and Star stickers. 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!

## Subject Overviews

### **Writing**

We will continue to write 3, 4 and 5 sound words. The children are beginning to write simple sentences remembering what they need to make a good sentence – capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces between words. They will also practise holding the sentence in their heads so they can remember what they are writing. Please remind the children of this when they practise at home. The children will continue to practise writing a rhyming string. Every week the children complete an English star award activity so that they can earn a star sticker and a stamp in their passport. Some children have already earned their red rainbow certificate. This term we will start to send out spellings this term for children to practise at home. Every Friday we will check to see whether the children have learned to write their words. Please help them by practising at home.

### **Reading**

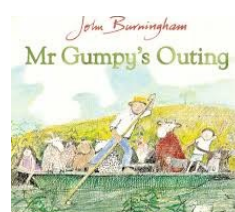
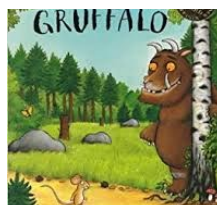
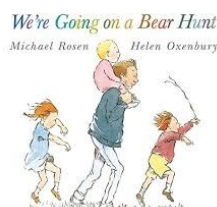
The children are making great progress during their Read Write Inc. lessons. Many children are reading sentences using their pointing and sliding finger to read words. We will continue to practise reading 3,4 and 5 sound words and spot our special friends to help us in our reading. Many children are beginning to read simple sentences. Your support with reading at home really helps your children practise their new reading skills. We are also learning many of our red words that are in the front of the children's reading records. Through our topic we will continue to share a range of stories together.

### **Maths**

Throughout this half term we will be consolidating numbers to 20 and using 1:1 correspondence. We will be learning about addition and subtraction, finding the total number of items in two groups by counting all of them. The children will practise saying which number is one more or one less than a given number. We will also be naming and describing 3D shapes and looking at their properties. We will be focusing on estimation and checking our answer by counting the number of objects. The children will have the opportunity to access a lot of activities throughout the weeks consolidating on the skills they have learned in our Maths lessons.

### **Topic**

This half term our topic will be 'Journey's through Stories'. As part of this topic we will be reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Mr Gumpy's Outing', and 'Gruffalo'. Some of the areas of learning we will cover through our topic work are- going on journeys and exploring different environments. The children will make observations and describe how things change. They will give reasons for why things happen and ask their own questions.



# Subject overviews

## **Personal Social and Emotional**

This half term we will be looking at how we can resolve conflicts using our words. We will be asking these questions- Why is it important to talk? Does it matter if we have different ideas? The children will be sharing their ideas with peers and teachers. We will be looking at stories to help gain a deeper understanding and also the importance of building and maintaining positive relationships with their peers. As always, we will continue our Star of the Week assembly every Friday afternoon, which gives us a chance to celebrate the children's hard work and achievements. The children are continuing to build on friendships and enjoy receiving a community coin for being helpful and polite towards their peers and adults.

## **Communication and Language**

FS2 are getting very good at expressing their thoughts and ideas to each other. This half term we will practise using questions to find out information. We will also develop our skills in providing explanations for events and things we observe. We will have opportunities to ask questions when we have visitors come into school.

## **Physical Development**

We are continuing to practise our letter formation through our handwriting sessions. The children are getting good at using their three friends to hold their pencil when writing. We have discovered that scissors can be quite tricky so we will be doing lots of cutting over the half term. In our weekly PE sessions, our focus will be developing our ball skills including kicking, catching, and throwing.

## **Music**

We will explore different aspects of music through our Topics and other events like Chinese New Year. We will explore word rhythms and sequences of sound. During our Gruffalo Topic we will learn an action song and compose music to go with the song. We will also discover how feelings can be expressed through music. Music sessions are always interactive using instruments and song to give children the chance to practise what they have learned.

## **Understanding the World**

Children will make observations and test their theories while exploring different media. They will discover what makes a bed comfortable, they will explore ice and test how long it takes to melt. They will also investigate what objects are magnetic and make predictions based on their discoveries. They will also test whether boats sink or float and predict how many peddles their boats can hold. Children will discuss their ideas and begin recording what they have discovered.

## **ICT**

This half term the children will continue to use technological toys including the bee bots and remote control cars. They will be challenged to arrive at a destination point on a map with their toys. They will also complete and navigate a simple computer programme through the Interactive White Board and Ipads related to our topics. Children will use our cameras to record what is happening as we are exploring continuous provision activities.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

Children will explore using different media to create collages, junk models and paintings. They will use props and act out narratives through our topics.

***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 rhyming words. Remind children that rhyming words sound the same at the end of the word.

### **Maths**

Practise counting objects to 20 and beyond. Practise counting backward from 20. Challenge your child to start and stop at different numbers. Go on a 3D shape hunt. Ask the children to name and describe the shapes they find.

### **Topic**

**We're Going on a Bear Hunt** Make a picture from one of the scenes in the Bear Hunt. Write some describing words for your picture.

**The Gruffalo** – Think of some rhyming words from our story. Can you write any more to go with the rhyming string?

Upcoming Events in Spring 1  
To be announced