



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 Math, Literacy, Phonics, Topic and Handwriting sessions.

The children are now familiar with our school incentives including the Community Coin, Star stickers, reading certificates 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
& Dolphin Class



Mrs Lloyd
Seal Class



Mrs Roberts
Seal Class

Writing

As well as writing individual words, we have begun to write simple phrases and sentences. The children can now say what our 'sentence rules' are, including capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We ask the children to also practise holding the sentence in their heads so they can remember what they are writing and then reading 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 reading 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!

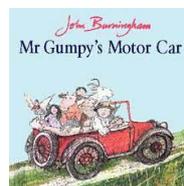
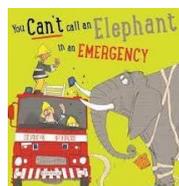
Reading

The children are working hard in their RWI groups. It is now a familiar start to each day and is important that children arrive at school on time as the RWI lessons start at 9am. 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 Literacy 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.

Maths

This half term we will be looking at 1 more and 1 less. We will be working practically, with real objects to work this out. With numbers to 5 the children will be comparing quantities, learning that a quantity can be more, less than or the same as another. We will be exploring the composition of the numbers 4,5,6,7 and 8, representing them in different ways and will learn to count out the required number from a larger group.

The children will be learning the correct vocabulary to enable them to compare the weight of objects. Comparing 2 items they will try and find the heaviest and lightest. We will build on their understanding of full/empty by showing half full, nearly full and nearly empty. Following this, we will investigate different shaped containers seeing which will hold more or less and begin to use the language thin/tall/narrow/wide/shallow.





Mrs Kirk
Penguin Class

Topic

This half term our topic will be 'Transportation' and 'Spring'. As part of this topic we will be reading a range of books which involve different types of transportation and venturing into different cultures and times. 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. Through our spring topic the children will make observations and describe how things grow. During their continuous provision time they will explore the stories through role play, small world, construction and the creative area.

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. Children will get to have a Police visit who will talk about road safety and what it is like to be a Police Officer. 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. We will listen to a story with a drum playing quiet and loud sounds. To tie in with Spring and new life we will explore the life cycle of a butterfly and learn an action song using quiet and loud vocal sounds. And finally, we will learn to express our feelings through music.

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.



Miss R Arcscott
Penguin Class



Miss E Arcscott
Turtle Class

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.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will design and make their own famous landmarks, using a variety of materials. They will evaluate their models and see how they are different or similar to their friends. They will role play being in a travel agent using props to support their role play. They will listen to music from other cultures and create their own performances.

Parent/Carer Reminders:

- ✓ 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. Remind children to use their Fred Fingers when writing words.

Maths

Practise counting objects to 10 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

Make an emergency vehicle out of junk modelling. Draw and label a picture of what you want to be when you grow up. Speak to an older family member about stories they read when they were young. See if they can share pictures of stories from when they were a child.

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.

Upcoming Events in Spring

- **3rd March, World Book Day** - if you want to, your child can dress up as their favourite book character on this day or they could just wear any non-uniform. Please ensure they wear sensible footwear.
- **18th March, Comic Relief** - we will be selling red noses (£1.50 each) and donating the proceeds to the charity
- **15th and 17th March** - Parent's Evening

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!

