



## Reception Topic Letter - Spring Term 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to wish you all a very 'Happy New Year' and to thank you so much for the wonderful gifts and thoughtful messages we received this Christmas.

We are very happy with how the children have settled back into school and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for working together with us to support and extend their learning.

Below is a summary of the Spring Term's Curriculum, highlighting the skills and knowledge that we aim to develop.

	Curriculum covered this term
<b>Communication &amp; Language</b>  <b>Literacy</b>	<p>The children will continue to bring reading scheme books and material home to practise their growing reading skills. They will also bring home school library books to share with you.</p> <p>We will continue to practise cursive handwriting through daily class-based activities and to develop the children's independent experimental writing. Children will learn more letter sounds and they will be encouraged to apply their knowledge of sounds in reading and in written work. We will be sharing poems and stories and engaging the children in role play and drama. In particular, we will be looking at stories and poems about space and transport and we will join the whole school writing project based around the story 'Beegu' written by Alexis Deacon.</p>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>This term's focus will be continuing to compare and investigate the composition of numbers. Through practical activities we will be combining 2 groups to develop understanding of addition. We will be learning about 3D shapes and the children will also explore the practical uses and vocabulary of talking about position and direction and measuring mass, length and capacity.</p>
<b>Understanding the World</b>	<p>This term we will be finding out about Space and Winter. We will also learn about and compare Lunar New Year and the festivals of Passover and Easter.</p> <p>We will continue to use ICT to develop skills in following and creating simple instructions. We will also learn about the different features of our ipads, particularly the camera.</p> <p>In our 'Transport' topic we will compare different forms of transport from the past and present.</p>
<b>Physical Development</b>	<p>In Gymnastics we will develop floor work and apparatus skills as well as using body parts in different ways to create imaginative shapes and movement in different directions. We will also be working on the topic of Dance as the children learn to use expressive movement and repeated actions in response to and in time with music. We will be using bikes and scooters to continue to develop gross motor and co-ordination skills.</p> <p>In the classroom we offer daily fine motor skill challenges to develop these skills in fun and engaging ways.</p>
<b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b>	<p>Our Topics this term are: 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me'</p> <p>Through discussions, we will encourage children to reflect on how they overcome obstacles and take on challenges. This is part of developing their confidence to 'have a go' and persevere with tasks and seek support when</p>



	<p>needed. Circle time discussions are a time when children can talk about their experiences, views, cultures and beliefs. Our 'Healthy Me' topic gives us the opportunity to learn about the importance of exercise, sleep, cleanliness, healthy food and oral health.</p>
<p><b>Expressive Arts and Design</b></p>	<p>Children will continue to have a choice of creative activities, working with modelling and collage materials, paint and drawing. We will use our topic of Space and Transport to develop our creative skills and specific techniques in different ways. Children will explore and investigate the different sounds of instruments, listen to music and learn a variety of songs.</p>

**Learning Outside**

We will be encouraging the children to move freely between the inside and outside areas throughout the day in order to access the full range of learning activities. Children need to be dressed appropriately each day with layers of warm clothing and a rain proof coat. Please continue to encourage your child to dress and undress independently, including shoes (no laces please) and coats.

We will continue our 'Forest Friday' outdoor learning lessons, two afternoons each half term. We will let you know when wellies are required.

**Other Notes and Reminders**

We continue to welcome your support with your child's Home Learning and look forward to seeing your child's work uploaded weekly on Assignments. Please send in your child's yellow school bag every day and check it regularly.

Please also remember to send in a named spill-proof water bottle each day and boxes of tissues are still much appreciated!

**Best wishes**

**The Reception Team**