

Reception Curriculum Letter

Summer Term May – July 2023

Dear Parents,

Our final term in Reception, it is always amazing to see how much the children have progressed with their love for learning during their first 2 terms and everyone is doing so well. As always, I thank you for supporting and encouraging your children especially with the daily reading.

This Summer term we have 2 topics, the first part is '*What's in the Garden?*' and we begin by looking at things that grow beginning with the well know fairy-tale 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' We learn about what things need to grow and all the different types of plants, fruits and vegetables. We will of course be celebrating the Coronation weekend with a garden party and some royal creative activities. Then onto the world of mini beasts with our trip to Holland Park to discover all the things that wriggle and crawl in the garden. After Half-Term, we change our topic to '*The Places you'll go*' where we learn all about different transports, adventurers, and countries all over the world. It's a great opportunity to celebrate all the different places the children have come from and still have families living there.

The children will be continuing their learning and development in key skills in each of the following areas listed below through a range of carpet sessions, focus group work and independent choice. I will ensure that the children will have a transition phase during Summer 2 so they feel ready and confident to join Year 1 next year. This will include more directed time at planned activities to build up their concentration levels and visiting their new classroom.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Yepes

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This half term, the children will be learning about new life. They will learn about the story of the empty tomb and learn that Jesus appeared to his disciples. The children will begin to understand the special gift of joy and peace that Jesus gave to his friends (John 20: 19-21) and can give to us as well. They will hear the story of Jesus going back to his Father and learn that one day we shall hopefully go there too. After Half-term will be learning that they belong to a Church family. They will learn that everyone is welcome in this family, that God has room for everyone. They will learn that God is our Father and that we call Jesus our brother (which is why we are named Christians). They will learn that we join the Christian family at our Baptism and that we gather on Sundays, a special day to be with our Church family. We will also learn about a different religion: Islam

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PSED)

We continue using our P.S.E.D scheme 'Ten Ten' the children learn they are uniquely created by God and special because they are made and loved by Him. Through Mollie the Cat and Billy Bird talking about their respective journeys from kitten/egg to adult animals, in Unit 4 – Life Cycles children will explore the natural human cycle of life, focusing on what children can remember about their development so far and what they know will happen as they get older. This is underpinned by the religious understanding that growing up is part of God's plan for our lives and that we are loved by Him at every life stage. After Half-Term we will introduce a very simple way the concept of the Trinity, where God is three-in-one and each part loves the others and loves us. Children will come to understand that as we are made in the image of God, we are designed to love God and love one another in our wider communities too. Through the story of Jesus feeding the 5000 with just the humble offering of a small boy, children will learn that our loving actions can be used by God to do incredible things.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT (PD)

During P.E this half-term we will continue focussing on throwing and catching, ensuring we are always looking at the ball / object and showing others that we are ready to catch. We will be getting the children prepared for their Sports Day in June teaching them how to work as a team in various running, jumping and obstacle races. During our growing topic we will re-visit the importance of eating fruit and vegetables to ensure we are healthy and look at other foods that help us to grow strong. We will also have some dance sessions for the children to help them with general coordination. Where possible we always encourage taking your children to parks and climbing frames as research has shown the stronger your child's upper body strength is, the easier they will find writing and fine motor tasks.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE (C&L)

The children will show their growing confidence in speaking in public with their final assembly in the first part of the Summer Term. Children grow confidence repeating well known stories and repeated phrases e.g. Fee Fi Fo Fum. We will read other stories with repeated phrase so the children can use them in role-play. Show and Tell will return after Half-Term and I will be encouraging a greater range of questions challenging the children to pay attention to the details they are being told. You can help your child by asking them questions about things in their home. Why do you like it? Where does it come from? What else can it do? As always encourage children to answer you in full sentences.

MATHEMATICS (MATHS)

The first part of the Summer Term we will be learning our numbers from 11-20. We have done lots of work using 10 frames so the children will start to recognise that any number above 10 has a full frame which is why they start with a 1. The children will start to see the patterns e.g. $11 = 10$ and 1 , $12 = 10$ and 2 . We will then be focussing on calculations with counting on / adding and counting back / subtraction.

After Half-Term we will focussing on doubles and then basic division which in Reception we refer to as sharing. The children will learn about odd and even numbers which will start their journey into counting in 2s. They will also re-visit 2D and 3D shapes, various problem-solving involving measurement and finally map making and directions.

LITERACY (LIT)

We are working on Set 2 sounds with the children learning the vowel sounds: ay, ee, igh, ow, oo and then moving on to complete the set (Some children will be introduced to Set 3 sounds). The children will be challenged to use these more in their writing and we will re-visit handwriting to ensure correct formation before joining Year 1. We hope that all children by the end of Summer Term can write a simple sentence using a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop e.g. The cat sat on the mat.

Depending on which group your child is working in, they will be all reading their R.W.I books. At the front of each books are the red words which feature in the book. As previously suggested, it's a good idea to write out those words on red paper and display them where your child can see them. They have to be learnt so the early you start the easier it is. Remember to read every day, when your child knows the story by heart encourage them to read it in their 'teacher / story-teller' voice to you, a family member or a favourite toy – this will help with their expression when reading aloud. You can help your child by asking them to predict the ending of stories to ensure they are understanding what they are reading / listening too.

We will continue reading a mix of fiction and non-fiction books and will introduce audio books to encourage children to listen to stories without pictures to see if they can follow the story.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD (KUW)

Growing is such an important topic and is demonstrates change to the children. We look at how all living things grow and what they need. The children love planting their own seeds, ensuring they have the basic needs to survive and watching them grow. During our minibeast topic the children can identify different creatures and begin to categorise them depending on their features e.g. wings / legs. Watching caterpillars complete their life cycle is always a fascinating watch.

During the second part of the term, the children love to learn more about their world, and we will be comparing where we live to other places in the world and identifying places on maps and the globe. The children will learn about famous adventurers from the past. Learning about new countries also gives the children an opportunity to learn about different cultures and languages which is we do often at OLOV.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN (EAD)

The children have been shown so many different ways to create their ideas throughout the year, using pens, paint, dough and craft. Their designs have become more detailed and more attention is given to create their end result. We will continue to encourage them to think about their design more before they start and making improvements once they have finished. In class we ask the children to comment on other people's designs and creations teaching them how to give praise and give a comment on what they could do next to make it even better. The children have learnt songs throughout the year, we will be encouraging them to sing and perform more independently, creating their own songs and movement. You can encourage your children at home by ensuring they have access to creative materials at their level and setting aside a creative time where they can choose how they want to express themselves.

