

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 2022 ~ Class 1 (Reception)



So that you feel clear about the teaching and learning intentions for the Spring Term 2022, please enjoy reading this overview, we hope that you find it helpful ...

Hello again,

This class sure does like to learn about big things so this term we will be finding out about: The Earth in Space.

We will begin by looking at the Earth as our planet and how we need look after it. It will be great to use Google Earth as this always fascinates children. It is something you can do at home too. We will then look at the moon and our nearest star: the sun, thinking about what they are and how they move around, before thinking about the solar system with the music of Holst: The Planets Suite. We will then think about a journey into space, designing and making our own space vehicles from recycled materials, before thinking about alien lifeforms, what these might look like, and how they could communicate. We will then bring this right back home by looking at our village and how we might explain aspects of it to a visiting alien. Who knows maybe a spaceship could even be visiting our village. I will enjoy sharing some new picture books with the children. In particular: Moon by Patricia Hegarty, The Planets and our Solar system by Maria Yangu (non fiction) and The Smeds and the Smoos, by firm favourite Julia Donaldson. We will also be making up space stories using the beautiful new wooden rocket, kindly donated by FOES (but don't tell the children, it is a surprise).

We keep going with our reading and writing by remembering those letter sounds and words to help us to read and write a sentence and finding out about what we need to write a good sentence; like capital letters, full stops and spaces. In phonics, we have all the single letter sounds and will be looking at vowel digraphs to make more sounds such as long vowel sounds: ai, ee, igh, oa and oo. In reception we learn just one way to read and write these sounds. (The alternatives to these will be taught in Year One.) We will be focusing on looking at working with numbers within 8 and introducing the concepts of addition and measures including: mass, length and capacity. We will be using what we know about numbers to help us to solve measuring problems and to use the correct words for positions.

Before we know it, it will be half term again, so keep on with those letters, reading and numbers... you are doing a fantastic job in helping your child have those precious skills at their fingertips.

See you soon 😊

Mrs Luddington, Ms Egan & Mrs Thackery

Homework Update:

For homework your child will have a:

- 📖 Reading Book which they have chosen. It is lovely to hear about other books they read or listen to as well if you would like to list those in the reading record too (changing on Monday and Thursday)
- 📖 Sounds Book where we will add new sounds. We have done all the single sounds and will now be looking at two or three sounds that we put together to make another sound. These are called digraphs and trigraphs.
- 📖 Also the TRICKY WORDS, as presented on flash cards, to read as a whole word.
- 📖 Remember to carry on looking at and talking about **numbers** and **letters** as you're out and about, they need to be as familiar as cats and dogs.

Messages:

P.E will take place on **Wednesday**. Please ensure that your child is wearing appropriate kit on these days.

Please bring a coat every day because we try and get out whatever the weather. Also dress warmly as the classroom is well ventilated (and can be cold at times). Wellies are also good to have when the weather needs them.

Remember we are often in our Gruffalo Wood and this type of outdoor learning can be messy. Please send your child in shoes that they can manage by themselves.

Keep looking on class dojo and tapestry to see all the things we get up to which help us to learn.

Thank You