

# Curriculum Information

## Reception Summer



Welcome back for the last full term of reception! This year is flying by and we are excited for all the exciting events coming up in the next few weeks.

Reading book changes will remain as **Monday** and the new books will be kept in school for our group reading sessions until **Wednesday** when your child will bring them home to continue to read with you. They are making such fantastic progress, please continue to practice reading at home.

Children will continue to visit the library on **Fridays** so please ensure library books are in school to be changed.

P.E will continue to be on a **Monday** and **Wednesday**. Your child **must** come in their P.E kits. Please also ensure that children have a coat with them every day even as the days warm up as we like to be outside as much as possible and you can never trust the British weather! Please ensure that all items are labelled especially hoodies, jumpers and cardigans.

Last half term we had our first “mystery reader” sessions. This was very popular with the children and we would like to expand these sessions to invite parents/grandparents to come into school and read a favourite story at the end of the day. As the name suggests it is nice to keep it a secret from your child so they get the surprise. Please speak to a member of the reception team to book a slot.

## Maths

This half term we will be building on the work around numbers to 20 and beyond working on counting forwards and backwards and making amounts. We will be identifying missing numbers, using amounts to add and subtract and introducing children to grouping and sharing equally.

To support your child's increasing understanding of maths concepts here are some ideas for ways to help at home;

- Go on a number hunt in the local area.
- Playing board games such as snakes and ladders to practice recognising numbers and counting on.
- Use beads, food, Lego, natural materials to create repeating patterns.
- Baking is a great way to introduce the vocabulary of weight and bath time is the perfect opportunity to practice capacity.
- Download the White Rose and Numbots Apps and have a go at some games! (Passwords for numbots will be added to reading records)

## English

In drawing club this half term we will be working on developing caption and sentence writing, encouraging children to sound out words themselves and use the tricky words they have been learning. We will also continue working on letter formation. Our first unit will use the cartoon “Captain Pugwash” this will give the children lots of opportunities to retell the story, use their imagination and write for a purpose.

During this term we will be thinking a lot about the sequences of events in stories and creating story maps as well as looking in more detail at characters and settings of different stories. We will be writing short labels, captions and sentences to retell stories.

**Please continue to read regularly with your child and listen to them read also encourage them to write for a purpose e.g. a note for a friend, label for a Lego model or the shopping list. When hearing them read encourage them to retell the events in their own words and talk about what happened,**

## **Phonics**

The children have now been introduced to all the phonemes and graphemes for reception. The focus of the phonics sessions during the Summer term is developing reading and spelling skills with longer words. We will be working on “chunking” words into syllables to help with reading long words and developing independence when writing. Alongside this, the children will continue to develop their recall of tricky words and will be introduced to some new ones.

To support your child at home, encourage them to read and write for a variety of purposes. We will also be having a focus on letter formation to support them with their written work.

## **Reading**

Wow the children have made brilliant progress with reading this year. We will continue to read in groups 3 times a week following the same system as last half term. Each week they will read with a different adult so that all adults get the chance to read with every group. We will then send books home with them on the Wednesday for them to practice at home. This is a great opportunity for them to develop their fluency and expression as they should be familiar with the text. It is lovely if they have the opportunity to read to extended family to show off their increasing skills.

**Session 1 Decoding:** This is the chance to learn the story, learn new vocabulary and explore the structure.

**Session 2 Prosody:** A chance to continue learning the story, look at characters and expression when reading.

**Session 3 Comprehension:** By this stage we hope the children are familiar with the story and need little help. At the end of the story we ask questions to check their understanding.

## **Topic**

This half term our topic is “Amazing Animals” and we will be answering the question ‘What animals live in our world?’. We are excited for our visit to Lotherton Hall on Thursday 21st May and in Summer 2, we will be receiving a special wriggly delivery to our classroom. We will be looking at animals from different places around the world. If any of you have pets who might like to come and visit the class please speak to one of us.

## **Technology**

Our focus this term will initially be “how can we use technology to communicate with others” and then we will move on to “how can we use technology to tell a story.” During this time the children will also be taught about how to keep safe when using technology for different purposes.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

Through music we will learn how to use music to create a soundscape taking inspiration from the animals that live in the sea. The children will learn the song “Down there under the sea” and will create their own lyrics to add verses and use instruments to improvise an accompaniment.

In Design and Technology, the children will be making their own animal in textiles. They will learn about different fabrics and how they can be used to create a variety of items. They will learn about the texture of fabrics and how they can be joined together using glue or a needle and thread. This will allow them to develop their fine motor skills and practise using tools such as scissors safely.

## Physical Development

**Gross Motor:** The children will continue to develop gross motor skills through balancing and building on a large scale in the outdoor area.

**P.E Focus:** This term we will be focusing on ball skills and games alongside practicing for events on sports day. **PE takes place on Mondays and Wednesdays.**

**Fine Motor:** We will continue to work on letter formation and developing skills using playdough and Lego.

## R.E

This half term our big question will be “**How do we understand and care for our world?**”

The children will reflect on why the natural world is important in our lives and how we can protect it. They will also learn about what Christians, Jews, Muslims and Hindus believe about creation. They will consider the things that they can do to help look after the world.

## PSHE

This half term we will be looking at ‘Being my Best’ and ‘Growing and Changing’. We will begin by discussing how we can be the best version of ourselves by living a healthy lifestyle, eating a variety of food and the importance of a good night's sleep. We will then move onto learning how we have changed since we were babies and how we change as we grow. We will look at what babies need and how people look after them. This unit will include talking about bodies and how boys and girls are different. We will introduce key vocabulary for naming the private parts of girls and boys and the importance of keeping our privates private. If you have any questions about this topic please come and speak to one of us. Please also click on the below link to find out more;

<https://www.coramscarf.org.uk/family-scarf/scarf-at-home/growing-and-changing>

## Home Learning

**Reading** - We know how hard you have all been working on reading at home and it is really paying off! Reading at home continues to be the main part of home learning. This should be regularly in short bursts (approx. 5 minutes). Also take time to talk about what the children have read and encourage them to think about using voices for characters as appropriate. When your child has read the book talk about the text and ask questions to check their understanding. There are questions in the back of the book and please encourage them to explain how they know.

**Words** - We will continue to send home tricky words for the children to practice reading and writing. Playing games such as fastest finger first, making treasure hunts to find the words or even hang man with them will all help with reading and spelling.

**Marvellous me** - We will continue to keep you up to date with your child's learning through marvellous me. Please check this app regularly as it's our contact point for important school messages.

**Wow moments** - please let us know of any wow moments where your child demonstrates a new skill and feel free to send in examples of writing/maths/art they would like to share in class.

### **Important dates:**

**Thursday 21st May - class visit to Lotherton Hall**

If there is anything you would like to discuss in person please let us know and we can arrange a date and time. If you have any questions please feel free to email us or catch us at pick up/drop off.

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Thank you, Mrs Moore and Mrs Wilkinson