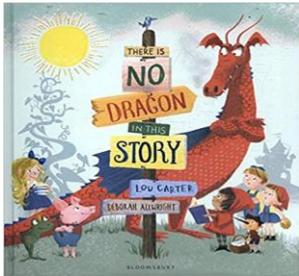


# Reception Newsletter

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and relaxing half term break!

Our key high-quality text this half term



There Is No Dragon In This Story  
By Lou Carter

## Literacy

This half term our Literacy sessions will begin with the text "There Is No Dragon In This Story" by Lou Carter. Throughout the half term we will be exploring a range of traditional tales in greater detail and developing narrative skills linked to storytelling, sequencing, mapping and bookmaking. We will be asking the questions of "Who? What? Where?" for each story that we focus on. We will be developing our comprehension and understanding skills and digging deeper to uncover the messages and moral problems within certain stories. Later in the half term we will be exploring the features of a letter and seeing if we can write our own letters!

## Reading & Phonics

This half term we are continuing with our learning of Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs (sounds with 2 or 3 letters). We will be practising reading these sounds in words within different contexts and for different purposes, whilst learning to recognise them in plain text - without the monster colours to help us spot them! We are beginning to encourage the children to apply their reading skills independently and work in pairs to solve problems using their phonics knowledge. Group reading sessions will continue to take place on a weekly basis. We will also be sending home additional reading books for your child to practise alongside their Monster Phonics reading book where appropriate. We are really proud of the hard work and great progress our class have shown in reading and phonics and are grateful for your support.

## Fine Motor Skills & Writing

This half term we are continuing to develop our dexterity and fine motor skills in order to be confident, happy writers! We will continue with our daily Dough Disco and Squiggle While You Wiggle sessions to develop our motor skills and letter formations. We are also using our fine motor skills to complete fiddly tasks and activities and apply these skills to our writing.

We are developing our letter formations and practising writing them correctly within our weekly writing and handwriting sessions. We are beginning to focus on writing our surnames too!

This half term we are beginning to develop accuracy when spelling. We encourage the children to use their voices to sound out the words they want to write and to use their phonic knowledge to write letters and digraphs they can hear.

### Maths

This half term in Maths we will be focussing on securing our knowledge of the representation and composition of numbers up to 10. We are rehearsing number facts to ensure we have a secure knowledge and understanding, and using these facts to solve problems and reason. We are exploring how numbers to ten can be represented in different ways, such as on ten frames, Numicon, dominoes, dice and pictures with irregular arrangements of numbers. We will also be introducing the "part-whole" model to aid our understanding and calculation of different numbers. Later in the half term, we will be continuing and creating more complex repeating patterns and investigating 3d shapes.

### Wider Curriculum

This half term we are focusing on the past and our History sessions will be linked to the text "Peepo!" by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. We will be considering timelines of events in our own lives and doing some research into what life was like before we were born. We will be exploring the history of our own families and discussing how things grow and change over time.

Our Science sessions will be focussed around plants and what they need to grow and thrive. We will be planting and taking care of our own seeds and (hopefully!) watching them grow! We will be moving on to thinking about life cycles of animals later in the half term and are looking forward to having a special arrival in our class to help us learn about growth and change!

Our Art sessions this half term will be centred around modelling using a range of different resources and materials. We will be developing our use of tools to cut, fix and attach.

In PSHE we will be thinking about our families and what is special about ourselves. We will be learning about different kinds of families and celebrating diversity!

### Class Targets

- \*develop an ability to ask a range of questions, including who, what, when, where, why and how
- \*develop perseverance and collaboration skills when working independently
- \*develop fine motor skills to use a range of tools and equipment safely and with good control

### General Information

\*This half term our library books will be changed in The Den on a Thursday once again.

\*Please keep reading books in bookbags at all times so we are able to read with your child on any given day!

\*A reminder about labelling clothes, shoes and PE kits. We encourage the children to take care of their own things and have responsibility for their belongings, however sometimes things can get a little muddled! Clearly labelled clothing helps us to return items to their owners.

Thank you for your continuing support at home.

Mrs Gates, Miss Daniels & Mr Wines