



# Curriculum Newsletter

Bramham Shadwell Federation  
Class R – Autumn 1 September 2023



A very warm welcome to all our new children, parents and carers.

We have been so impressed with how well the children have settled into their new class. We are looking forward to an exciting Autumn in Class R!

## Communication, Language and Literacy

- The focus will be 'Marvellous Me'. The children will talk about themselves and their families. We will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books linked to change, school and families.
- We will become word collectors, exploring the meaning of new and interesting words.
- The children will be learning a traditional story each term using a story map and actions. This term we will focus on the story 'The Little Red Hen'.
- The children will join in circle times where they will share their thoughts, take turns and listen to one another's ideas.
- An adult will listen to your child read each week during daily RWI sessions.
- The children will be learning lots of nursery rhymes this year. During the next half term we will be learning: Row, Row, Row Your Boat; Hickory Dickory Dock; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive; and Two Little Blackbirds.
- All children will be learning Set 1 sounds and will begin to form letters and simple words. They will practise this in the areas of provision and during fun focused activities.
- All children will participate in handwriting sessions with a focus on **accurate letter formation**. This may be in shaving foam, sand, paint or in their books.

## Mathematical Development

- The focus will be on numbers 1, 2 and 3.
- We will learn 1 more and 1 less practically up to 3.
- We will learn to subitise using groups of objects up to 3.
- We will learn number bonds to 3 (1 and 2 makes 3, 3 and 0 makes 3)
- We will learn to explain our answers by using 'because'. We will model how to challenge answers by using 'I agree' or 'I disagree'.
- The children will look at a variety of 2D shapes: circle, rectangle and triangle and will explore composing and de-composing 2D shapes.
- We will explore measuring in relation to length, using a range of equipment.
- The children will explore patterns using a range of objects.
- The children will solve problems using 1p and 2p coins.

### How can I help / information for helping

Practise writing letters using the correct starting point and formation, especially in their name.


Ask your child to write all the sounds they can hear in a word. Can they hear the initial sound?

Discuss vocabulary with your child when reading stories at night time.

If your child requires a little extra support ask your child to create their name or words using cut up letters to remove the pressure of writing.

### How can I help / information for Helping

Spot numbers and shapes with your child in your local environment and post pictures on Tapestry.

Phonics	Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Physical Development
<p data-bbox="91 135 779 167"><b>The focus is Phase 1 skills and Set 1 RWI Sounds</b></p> <div data-bbox="91 183 757 422" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p data-bbox="369 183 481 207">Set 1 Sounds</p>  </div> <p data-bbox="91 478 779 758">The children will be following the RWI scheme for phonics, a scheme which will continue to be used as they move further up the school. The children will learn to recognise set 1 sounds, as well as blending and segmenting words containing these phonemes. The children will also be consolidating Phase 1 skills by playing lots of games that involve sounding out and blending words together such as: You can cross the river if you have a c-a-t.</p> <p data-bbox="91 790 779 917">There will be an introduction for parents to 'Read Write Inc' later this half term. The date of this workshop will be finalised shortly and you will be informed via parent mail.</p>	<p data-bbox="779 135 1464 167"><b>The focus is Transition</b></p> <ul data-bbox="779 167 1464 798" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The children will spend time settling in to the new routines of school with their key worker and the other members of staff.</li> <li>• They will spend time getting to know the names of the other children in the class.</li> <li>• The children are learning about the seven rules of our new behaviour system, The Best. Each week of this half term we will focus on one of these, each of which link to our CARE ethos and the British Values.</li> <li>• As part of our new behaviour system, children that exemplify the school's values and ethos through their positive choices will be celebrated through individual, whole class and house rewards.</li> <li>• The children will participate in Celebration Assembly every Friday in the school hall, where we celebrate a special person. If your child has been chosen as the '<b>Star of the Week</b>' you will be informed the week before and invited to come and join us in the hall to watch your child receive a special certificate in front of the whole school.</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="1464 135 2150 199"><b>The focus</b> will be travelling safely around a large space in a variety of ways with control and coordination.</p> <p data-bbox="1464 231 2150 446"><b>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</b> In the outdoor area the children will have the opportunity to develop gross motor skills and to be physically active. We will provide a range of resources each week to develop skills such as the obstacle course, wheelbarrows, large sweeping brushes, large building equipment etc.</p> <p data-bbox="1464 478 2150 566">We will provide exciting <b>fine motor</b> activities within and outside the classroom for the children to access. These will help the children improve their pencil control.</p> <p data-bbox="1464 606 2150 853">PE will be on a <b>Wednesday morning</b>. Therefore, please can you ensure your child comes to school in their P.E kit (including their house team T-shirt, which they should have received on their transition days). They will then remain in their kit for the duration of the day. Please make sure your child wears warm clothing in case it is cold and trainers with Velcro fastenings (unless they are proficient at tying their own shoe laces)!</p>
<p data-bbox="91 943 779 981"><b>How can I help / information for Helping</b></p> <ul data-bbox="91 981 779 1300" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify new set 1 sounds when out and about.</li> <li>• Practise the RWI sounds that the children learn each week. (These will be uploaded to Tapestry each week or can be purchased.)</li> <li>• Play initial sound games, such as 'Eye Spy'. As an extra challenge see how many objects your child can spot with a chosen initial sound in a minute!</li> <li>• Play rhyming pairs with picture cards. As they become more confident, challenge your child to generate other rhyming words to match.</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="779 943 1464 981"><b>How can I help / information for Helping</b></p> <p data-bbox="779 981 1464 1045">If you have any concerns about your child, please let us know.</p>	<p data-bbox="1464 943 2150 981"><b>How can I help / information for helping</b></p> <p data-bbox="1464 981 2150 1045">If unsure please refer to the Welcome Pack for details of what your child should wear for P.E each week.</p> <p data-bbox="1464 1069 2150 1133">Your child will be in one of the four following house teams:</p> <p data-bbox="1464 1157 2150 1220">Red = Rowan, Green = Ash, Blue = Beech, Yellow = Willow</p>

<b>Expressive Arts and Design</b>	<b>Understanding the World</b>
<p><b>Focus is:</b> Autumn and Marvellous Me</p> <p>This term the children will be completing a number of creative activities using a variety of media and materials. The children will be exploring colour mixing using primary colours as their starting point.</p> <p>We will be teaching the children how to use the resources and tools in the creative area, independently. They will explore colour mixing using primary colours as their starting point; they will create a self-portrait where they will look closely at their features; and as part of our Carnival topic the children will be making their own musical instruments and costume accessories.</p> <p>During their weekly session with Mrs Walker they will be exploring rhythm, pitch and pulse and be introduced to a variety of different instruments including the African drums.</p> <p>The children will deepen their understanding of our Talk for Writing text through drama and will also, have the opportunity to act out their own stories, using our new stage in the Outdoor Area.</p> <p>We will use harvested apples to bake apple cake with the children this half term.</p>	<p><b>The focus is Autumn and Carnivals</b></p> <p>We will explore and discuss signs of Autumn during our weekly outdoor sessions.</p> <p>The children will discuss what they know about Autumn and how it is different to other seasons. We will spend time hunting for bugs and spotting birds. We will also be going on walks with the children to forage for our own Autumnal materials to use in our transient art creations. If the children find any signs of Autumn whilst out and about with you this half term please do encourage them to bring them into class to talk about and use in our provision areas.</p> <p>We will be thinking about what a carnival is and looking at photos and videos of the Leeds Carnival. We We will use this as inspiration for creating our own musical instruments and dance routines.</p> <p>We will use the interactive whiteboard and iPad to stimulate learning through games, activities and drawing programmes.</p> <p>In the outside area, the children will be busy turning the soil in our beds in preparation for sowing seeds.</p> <p><b>How can I help / information for Helping</b></p> <p>Talk to your children about the seasons and help them spot changes in your local environment.</p> <p>Go on walks with your children and forage for Autumnal materials together. Encourage them to talk about what they see, hear, smell and feel.</p>

Homework	Any Other Information / Dates for the Diary
<p><b><u>Reading</u></b> Over the next few weeks, your child will receive their first reading book to share with you at home. Initially each child will start by taking a book home with no words. This is a great opportunity for your child to develop their story telling skills.</p> <p>Once your child starts to recognise a variety of letters and is blending sounds together at school they will be given a RWI sound blending book together with a RWI paper ditty.</p> <p>Books will be sent home each Wednesday and collected in every Monday morning. Therefore, your child will have their book at home from Wednesday to Monday. Please make sure you write in your child's Reading Record book each time you hear them read.</p> <p><b><u>Literacy Homework</u></b> Homework will be sent to you via Tapestry and will focus on the sounds we have been learning that week. More information will be provided nearer the time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Write Inc Parent Workshop – [DATE TBC] 9:00 to 10:00.</li> <li>• Individual Photos – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October</li> <li>• Parent Consultations – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Further information to follow.</li> </ul> <p>In Reception the children spend a lot of time outside, therefore, please make sure your child has a coat in school.</p> <p>Please ensure that your child has a <u>named</u> water bottle in school every day. They must remember to take it home every evening to wash the bottle and bring it in to school already full. This will ensure that the bottles are kept clean and germ-free for the children's use each day. We ask that the children only bring water in their water bottles.</p> <p>Baking money – This term we are asking for a donation of <b>£1</b> to help towards paying for baking ingredients, as well as other resources that may need to be purchased linked to topics such as seeds and books.</p>

Thank you for all your support so far. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miss Peacock, Mrs Wilkinson and Miss Hodgson