



Curriculum Newsletter

Bramham Shadwell Federation
Class R January – February 2019



All our learning in class this half term will be focused around the question: **Being better**

This term Reception will be learning all about different types of transport. Last term many of the children displayed a keen interest in trains and cars and we would therefore like to extend this topic further to build on the children's current knowledge and interest.

Communication, Language and Literacy

- The focus will be on learning about transport. We will be using a range of non-fiction texts and reading transport related stories.
- The children will be learning how to use the features of a non-fiction book.
- They will also be writing reports and designing and labelling cars.
- All children will continue to read to an adult both in group reading sessions and individually.

Writing:

- All children will start to write/ sequence a simple sentence. They will practise this through weekly news writing, phonics and independent writing challenges.
- We will also be further developing our story telling skills which will help develop our writing. Each week the children will create a class story that the teacher will scribe in a whole class book. This will encourage story language and a deeper understanding of the elements which are required to make a story: beginning, setting, characters, problem and resolution.
- All children will participate in handwriting sessions with a focus on **accurate letter formation**.

The texts we will focus on are:

The Train Ride, Cars (Non fiction) and People Who Help Us

How can I help / information for helping

Share a variety of books at home with your child.
Discuss vocabulary with your child from their reading book.
Use non-fiction books to find information.
Practise letter formation in sound books each week. If your child requires extra challenge:
Could your child write a word containing the sound or write a sentence containing the word.

Practise accurate letter formation



When your child is writing at home, please encourage them to start their letters in the correct place.

Mathematical Development

- The focus will be on recognising and ordering numbers to 10
- We will continue to develop our quick recall of 1 more and 1 less than a given number.
- We will also be exploring and recalling all the different ways to make number bonds to 6 (**how many ways do you know to make 5**).
- The children will continue to develop their mathematical language when talking about 2D (**sides, corners, flat**) and 3D shapes (**faces, edges, vertices, solid**)
- We will explore measuring including capacity using a range of equipment.
- The children will continue to explore pattern.
- Doubling, halving and sharing will also be investigated.

How can I help / information for Helping

Practise saying 1 more and 1 less than a given number to 6.
Play with dice: roll a dice, what number has it landed on? How do you know?
How many different ways can you make 5 with 5 sweets?
Continue 2D shapes. Can they name them and describe their properties?

Phonics	Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Physical Development
<p>Focus is: Beginning to look at Phase 3 sounds:</p>  <p>We will also be continuing to practise our blending and segmenting skills in order to read and write words.</p> <p>Tricky words: These are our new tricky words this half term.</p> 	<p>This term the children will carry out a circle time each week with their Key Worker. During this time they will focus on particular issues or changes that are occurring inside or outside of school. If there is anything that you wish for us to address or discuss in circle time please speak to a member of staff.</p> <p>This term the 'Class R VIP of the Day' system will continue this term. Each day we will choose two children to be our 'VIPs' and parents will be informed. The VIPs will wear a celebratory lanyard and will be in charge of special jobs in class.</p> <p>Special Assembly will continue to take place every Thursday. This assembly is for the 'Star of the Week'. If your child has been chosen you will be informed a week before and invited to attend the assembly, where your child will receive a special certificate.</p>	<p>In PE the focus will be on games. The children will learn to travel safely with a ball by dodging and weaving. They will learn how to roll, kick, throw and catch a ball. Each week we will focus on a different skill, which the children will apply to a simple target or invasion game at the end of the session.</p> <p>We will continue to provide fine motor activities within the classroom for the children to access. These will be related to our class topics and will help the children improve their pencil and scissor control.</p>
<p>How can I help / information for Helping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot and practise our new sounds when reading books with your child. Continue to practise the Phase 2 sounds. Practise recognition of all our tricky words. 	<p>How can I help / information for Helping</p> <p>If you have any concerns about your child, please let us know.</p>	<p>How can I help / information for Helping</p> <p>Please ensure that your child has their named indoor PE kit including pumps with them every day as additional lessons may take place on alternative days. This can be taken home on a Friday to wash if necessary.</p>

Expressive Arts and Design	Understanding the World
<p>Focus is: A variety of media and materials will be available in the classroom for the children to independently express themselves. Throughout the term the children will explore colour mixing using powder paints to help develop their painting skills. There will also be the opportunity to create large scale models, such as a whole class train and plane. They will also compete in a boat challenge to see who can make a boat that floats. If you have any large cardboard boxes at home, please send them in. They would be greatly</p>	<p>Focus is: After a successful 'Autumn Explorer Day' the children will continue to observe the changes that occur outside. Reception will also be carrying out a number of investigations: They will be investigating which material will be most suitable to make a boat; which surface helps a car travel the furthest and which boat stays afloat. The class will also look at past and present transport and discuss the similarities and differences. Later in the term Class R will be going on a school trip to 'The National Railway Museum' in York. Further information will be sent out soon.</p>

<p>appreciated.</p> <p>The children continue to have singing and music sessions with a specialised teacher on a Thursday.</p>	<p>During the last week of term, the children will have a class debate to discuss whether or not a new railway running through Shadwell would be a good or bad idea.</p>
<p>How can I help / information for Helping</p> <p>Please continue to bring in small boxes, lids and containers for the children to use in our workshop area.</p>	<p>How can I help / information for Helping</p> <p>Discuss and seasonal changes in the environment.</p> <p>Send observations onto Tapestry of your child using technology: Ipads, remote control cars, CD player...</p>

Homework	Any Other Information / Dates for the Diary
<p><u>Ongoing Homework</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Books are sent home on a Tuesday and Friday night. Please make sure your child's book is in school every day. • Sound Book Homework: This half term our homework will have a focus on letter formation linked to our new phase 3 phonics sounds. Please encourage your child to practise their letter formation and new sounds in their books. Extra practise at home makes a huge difference when writing in class. For an extra challenge: Could your child write a word containing the sound or write a sentence containing the word. 	<p>Wednesday 16th January - Winter Explorer Day (Please ensure children are wrapped up warm as we will spend lots of the day outside. Please also ensure children have wellies to wear for the day).</p> <p>Tuesday 5th February - Safer Internet Day</p> <p>In Reception the children spend a lot of time outside, therefore, if the weather turns particularly cold, could you please ensure that your child comes to school with a coat, hat and gloves.</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.</p>

Thank you, as always, for your continuous help and support. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment at the office to arrange a meeting after school.

Mrs Williamson and Mrs Pelc