



Curriculum Newsletter

Bramham Shadwell Federation
Class R January – February 2020



All our learning in class this half term will be focused around the question: **What does freedom mean to someone?**
This term Reception will be learning all about Winter and different animals.

Communication, Language and Literacy

- The focus will be on learning about Winter. We will be using a range of non-fiction texts and reading stories related to winter and animals.
- The children will be learning how to use the features of a non-fiction book.
- They will also be writing instructions on how to make a den and predicting which will be the best method to melt ice.
- 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.

The texts we will focus on are:

Season (Non-fiction)

One Winter's Day (Fiction)

The Emperor's Egg (Fiction)

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 7.
- 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 7 (**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 finding/ 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?

Challenge: Explore the value of money. How many different ways can you pay for a toy that costs 4p/ 5p? If you paid with a 10p, how much change would you get back?

Phonics

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

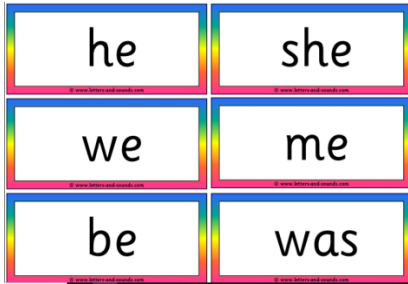
Physical Development

Focus is: Beginning to look at Phase 3 sounds:



We will also be continuing to practise our blending and segmenting skills in order to read and write words.

Tricky words: These are our new tricky words this half term.



This term the children will carry out a circle time each week. 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.

This term the 'Class R VIP of the Day' system will continue. 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.

Special Assembly will continue to take place every Friday. 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.

Focus is:

- Gymnastics

Skills / knowledge to be developed:

- The children will continue to work on creating shapes using their bodies.
- They will be moving safely on and around apparatus.
- The children will learn to perform the tuck, straddle and pike positions on apparatus or mats.
- The children will incorporate these movements into a small routine.

Exciting **fine motor** activities will be provided within the classroom for the children to access. These will help the children improve their pencil control.

PE will be on a **Wednesday** this half term.

How can I help / information for Helping

- 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.

How can I help / information for Helping

If you have any concerns about your child, please let us know.

How can I help / information for Helping

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.

Expressive Arts and Design

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, ready mixed paint and water colours. There will also be the opportunity to create dens on a large and small scale outside using natural materials. Small world areas linked to Winter will also be set up for the children to create stories and engage in imaginative play with their peers.

Understanding the World

Focus is: After a successful 'Autumn Explorer Day' the children will continue to observe the changes that occur outside during Winter. This term Shadwell have been invited to join Bramham Primary School for the day to explore the grounds for signs of Winter, as well as carrying out a number of activities.

Reception will also be investigating:

- Which is the quickest and safest method to melt ice?
- How can we stop the ice from melting?

<p>The children will continue to have singing and music sessions with a specialised teacher on a Friday.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What animals can be seen during Winter? • What animals can be found in cold areas? • Where in the world do penguins live? • Do all penguins live in cold countries? • What changes have occurred to the outside environment?
<p>How can I help / information for Helping 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 Discuss any seasonal changes in the environment. Send observations to 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 will continue to be sent home on a Tuesday and Friday. Please make sure you put a comment in the reading record each time you hear your child read. Books will only be changed if they have been read at home. • Sound Book Homework: This half term our homework will focus on sound recognition and letter formation linked to our new phase 3 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>Please remember to like an observation on Tapestry once read, this will inform us that you have seen it. If you have still not accessed Tapestry and unsure of how it works, please inform a member of staff and we will be happy to show you.</p>	<p>Tuesday 28th January - Winter Explorer Day - A letter will be sent out with further information.</p> <p>Tuesday 11th February - Safer Internet Day</p> <p>Thursday 5th March – World Book Day</p> <p>Wednesday 1st April – Parent Consultation Meeting</p> <p>Parent Readers Wanted: If you are interested in offering an hour each week to listen to children read, please inform a member of staff. This would be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Phonic Stay and Play: We would like to invite you to join your child to learn all about phonics this term. During this session there will be an opportunity to observe a phonics lesson, as well as access areas of provision linked to reading and writing. A letter will be sent out next week with the dates and times.</p> <p>Also if you know of anyone who has a doll's house that they no longer require, we would greatly appreciate the donation. We are also collecting boy's clothes for the dressing up area such as shirts, trousers, suits, hats and pyjamas.</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