Friday 25th April 2025

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome back to term 5, I hope you all had a lovely half term break. I can not believe that the children now only have two terms left in Reception, the time has flown by! With this in mind please may I draw your attention to our expectations regarding reading at home, as this will really support your child to achieve the literacy early learning goal at the end of Reception. I will be sending out more details about our end of year expectations later in the term.

**Literacy**

This term we will be focusing on the following books:



**Topic**

This term will be finding out about what plants need to grow by planting some seeds and investigating the lifecycle of plants.

This term’s curriculum web contains more details about what else children will be learning in Term 5.

**Reminders**

* Please ensure that your child brings their water bottle to school every day. In line with the EYFS framework we ask that these contain **water only**.
* Please send your child to school with a spare set of clothes which can be kept in school and be used in the event that your child has an accident. Due to lack of storage space, we ask that this term these be sent in a drawstring bag and not in a back pack. As a school we do not have spare pairs of pants/knickers etc.
* Please ensure that all items of clothing are named as we still have lots of jumpers/cardigans that are not named.
* Please do not bring any toys into school as things can get lost or broken.
* Please may we remind you that children need a pair of welly boots which will remain in school for the year. Please ensure that these are labelled with your child's name.

**Book Bags**

Book bags need to be in school every day as the children read on different days of the week. Book bags will be kept in school on a Thursday so that books can be changed ready to be sent home on Friday. Please do not put drinks bottles in book bags as books are getting damaged. Any damaged or lost books will result in you being invoiced £5.00 to cover the cost of replacing the book.

**Reading at home reminders**

At Southbroom infants we expect all children to be reading their Little Wandle phonic book at least 4 times a week at home. Reading should be recorded in your child’s reading record.

**Little Wandle Reading Practice Book**

These books are carefully matched to your child’s secure phonic knowledge. By the end of the third read in school they should be able to read this book fluently and independently without overtly sounding out every word. This means that if your child is reading it with little help, please don’t worry that it’s too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can’t read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

**Reading for Pleasure Book (school library book)**

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The reading for pleasure book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn’t expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

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| **Reading** | | **How you can help:** |
| **Reading Aloud** | To be on track for the end of the year, your child should be currently reading Phase 3 set 2 books. They should also be reading more automatically without sounding each word out. | Reading with your child daily to develop their fluency (only a few pages a day is enough to help). |
| **Reading for Pleasure** | To be choosing a book that they’d like to share with an adult and engaging with this at home. | To encourage your child to share books at home. To visit the local library and take out books that your child is interested in. |
| **Reading Comprehension** | Your child should be able to make simple predictions, infer how characters are feeling, retrieve basic information in response to questions. | Ask your child questions about what they have read. Encourage your child to make predictions and recall events from the book. Ideas to support this can be found in the back of the reading books. |

**Homework**

Doodle Maths homework will be set on a Monday to be completed by the end of the week. Phonic workbooks will be sent home on a Friday to be completed by the following Tuesday. Your child should complete the dated and highlighted sections in pencil only, not felt tip or pen. This term we will also be sending home work to support letter formation. This needs to be completed in pencil only.

**Wow Slips**

These slips are designed to share wow moments from home. This term there will be a basket of these slips placed just by the door, please help yourselves. We will also send some home in your child’s book bag. Wow Slips can be filled in and added to your child’s learning journey.

**Independence**

This term we would really like you to support your child at home to independently cut up and eat their food with a knife and fork, we will also be focusing on this skill at dinner time. We would also like the children to be able to take off and put their jumpers independently.

**Communication**

Please remember to check your child’s book bag regularly for letters. This term we will continue to keep you updated with what children have been doing in Reception via the weekly Sway newsletter which is easily accessible on a mobile device. Thank you to all of you who have signed up to Class Dojo. Please remember to check it regularly.

 As you will appreciate, the mornings are a busy time, this means that I cannot always speak with each parent directly as I am busy seeing the children in. Quick messages can be passed on however, if you wish to speak to me about other matters, please may this wait until pick up as there is more time available then. Messages can also be sent on class Dojo.

I hope you have all the information you need for Term 5. Please do ask if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Morgan

Reception Teacher/Early Years Lead