

Spring 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are writing to inform you of what your child will be learning and the skills they will be developing during the Spring Term in Reception.

<p>During the Spring term our topic will be 'A Taste of the World'. As part of this topic, we will become familiar with our planet, Earth. We will look at the other planets in the solar system and learn how something so big includes where we are from. We will look at where we live, Stockton, and draw maps to show our local area. We will look further into the world and discover different parts of it. We will look at children around the world and how their life is different or similar to ours. We will make comparisons with children in China and look at how they celebrate Chinese New Year. Finally, we will explore how the world differs by using books to explore warm and cold climates.</p>		
Subject	Skills	What you can do to help your child?
Reading/Communication and Language/Writing	Reading and developing a love of books is key to your child's literacy success. We will be sharing books that explore our world. Using songs, stories and new vocabulary we will be encouraging the children in class to talk about their understanding of the world in which they live.	Share school reading books sent home and enjoy a bedtime story together every night. Sing favourite songs and nursery rhymes.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Together we will discuss how everyone is different and special. There might be things that make them similar to or different from others, including their appearance or things that they like to do. They will explore specifically the similarities and differences between themselves and children in other places around the world.	Support your child to think about what makes them special. Talk about their emotions with them and ask them what makes them happy where they live. What do they like to do? Where do they like to go?
Understanding of the World	The children will learn about the world and how to draw information from a simple map. They will recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways focusing on Chinese New Year. They will learn about some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries particularly focusing on hot and cold climates. They will recognise that the environment we live in differs to other environments in the world.	Encourage your child to see the monuments they pass on the way to school for them to start developing a sense of the map of their journey. Talk about where you live and, if you have lived in more than one place, compare that place to this one.
Expressive Arts	The children will be exploring different materials to create art. They will use a range of materials including paint, chalk pastels and pencil to create Earth and	Encourage your child to listen to music and see dances from other cultures. Help them to perform themselves, engaging in the music.

	space pieces. They will explore using colour to represent hot and cold. Finally, they will listen to music from different countries and give their opinions on it.	
Physical Development	<p>In Reception our PE day is Wednesday. Your child can come into school on PE days wearing a plain black tracksuit with no logos.</p> <p>The children are continuing to focus on their tripod grip to form letters correctly. They are continuing to practice their letter shapes to write words with the sounds that we have been taught.</p>	<p>Encourage your child in mark making activities at home encouraging them to hold the pencil in a tripod (thumb and index finger) grip. Practice writing letters, particularly the ones in their first and second name.</p> <p>Your child will be in the outdoor area each day regardless of the weather so make sure that they always have a coat and clothes that suit the weather. Also, flat shoes are essential. No open toe shoes are allowed as they are inappropriate.</p>

Evidence Me

We will be sharing your child's learning journey with you on Evidence Me; this is a chance to see what your child has been doing over at Reception how you can further support them at home. Please make sure we have an email address for you and you have downloaded the app as stated in the letter you were given.

Reading

There will be an opportunity to change your child's reading book **every Friday** so please ensure it comes back into school to be changed. It is important that your child reads every day to develop fluency in their reading so we ask that you encourage them to reread the story each night and use the Sounds Write process of 'say the sounds, read the word'. Each book comes with reading and spelling practice and some games at the back which you can use to extend your child's learning. Sometimes your child may come home with a read together book where you read the small, grey script and the child reads the large, black text or a book with only pictures which we would ask your go through with your child and talk about what is happening in the story.

Resources

Milk bottle tops, small boxes, tubes, scrap materials, wool or ribbon donations, or any other recyclable materials would be much appreciated. These materials will support the resourcing of our craft and modelling area.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Shaw