



# RECEPTION CURRICLUM LETTER

Summer 1 2021

We hope that these letters will keep you informed of all that is happening in Reception. We hope you will use these to support your child with their learning.

## Reception Staff

We have two classes in our reception. Mrs Shaikh and Mrs Hatton are the class teachers and our amazing support assistants, Mrs Cornall, Mrs Desai and Miss Patel.

Mrs Rawat will be covering the classes in the absence of the class teacher.

If you need to speak to us, please see us before or after school, use do jo or ring the school office to make an appointment.

## THEME

Our topic this half term is called 'Down at the bottom of your garden'. We will be looking at how things grow, what they need to grow and how to care for growing plants. We will learn about the key features of the life cycle of a plant and animals.

Each week we will be exploring a different story and using it as a basis for much of the learning within the 7 areas.

**Week 1** – Jaspers Beanstalk and Jack and the Beanstalk.

**Week 2** – Plant the Tiny Seed.

**Week 3** – The Enormous Turnip.

**Week 4** – The Hungry Caterpillar.

**Week 5** – Caterpillars Eat so Much!

**Week 6** – Poetry based on insects.

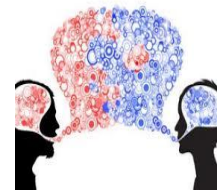
**Week 7** – Research on Minibeasts using the internet.

**This is what we are focusing on in the 7 areas of learning over the next half term.**

## Communication and Language

We will be looking at lots of exciting stories throughout the topic. We will be encouraged to speak in full sentences and think about what we want to say about the topic. To do this we will:

- Listen attentively to others ideas 1:1, in groups or whole class
- Understand why listening is important
- Listening and responding to the stories we have read by asking questions and making relevant comments
- Use past, present and future tenses when talking about events
- Speaking clearly in sentences that give details
- Sharing ideas with a group or class using new vocabulary
- Using the language of the stories we have read
- Explain how and why things happen



## Personal, social and emotional development

In PSED we will be focussing on 'Relationships'. We will be looking at our families and who is who. We will be finding out about friendships and what it means to be a good friend. We will role play what to do if we fall out with our friends and how we can make things better. We will look at kind and unkind words and how these can affect people. We will finish by looking at calming techniques and what to do if we get angry.

## Physical development

PE sessions will be on Monday's. The focus will be Gymnastics. We will continue to experiment with different ways of moving and negotiating space successfully. We will continue to refine a range of ball skills including throwing, catching, kicking, passing, batting and aiming.

In our outdoor provision we will be improving our gross motor skills through climbing, crawling, skipping and sliding. We will use malleable activities to improve and develop our small motor skills. We will continue practicing our letter and number formation to develop our handwriting skills and developing our scissor control with cutting practice.



## Literacy

Literacy carpet sessions will introduce the children to different stories based around the theme of Growth and Change. We will continue to write sentences focussing on capital letters, adjectives and full stops. We will use our story telling skills to retell stories using puppets and we will sequence stories using pictures.

We will:

- Explore story language and look at the structure of a narrative
- Research and find information related to animals/insects
- Retell the stories and create some of our own
- Write short stories based on what we have learnt
- Continue to use finger spaces to separate each word
- Read common high frequency words by sight
- Reading books independently and in guided reading sessions

## Mathematics

We will be focussing on counting to and back from 20, ordering numbers, finding one more and one less, addition using objects and counting on. We will recap and build upon what we have learnt previously around shape.

We will:

- Explore the composition of numbers to 20
- Read and write numbers to 20
- Compare amounts using the language-more/fewer
- Identify one more and one less than a given number
- Adding and subtracting numbers
- Understand shapes can be combined and separated to make new shapes



## Understanding the World

Children will talk about what they see, using a wide range of vocabulary they have learnt. They will plant seeds and care for growing plants. They will learn about and understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal. They will begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. Children will also look at the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.

## Expressive arts and design

We will be encouraging the children to develop their creative talents by:

- Looking at different patterns in the environment
- Using different materials to create an animal
- Experimenting with different drawing techniques
- Choosing colours for a particular purpose
- Introducing a storyline into our play
- Developing skills in playing different percussion instruments



## READING

Due to COVID restrictions, we will be sending books out on a **Wednesday** and will be collected back in on a **Monday**, so they can be quarantined before giving out again. Children will be bringing 2 books home. A book to practice the sounds they are working on in school and another decodable book which includes high frequency words. Please take time to read and discuss your child's reading book with them, 5 to 10 minutes is sufficient. Please sign the reading diary; you can make a comment if you wish so we can see your child has read, Parents who support their child with reading at home make more accelerated progress at school. **Ensure reading books are kept in your child's red reading bags**, so we can listen to them read in class daily. **There will be a charge of £5.00 for any lost or damaged reading books.**

## LEARNING JOURNEYS

We have a Learning Journey in school which celebrates your child's experiences. Over time it tells a story about your child – their learning, friends, and the experiences he or she enjoys sharing with others. At this age, so much happens so quickly and we would love to hear about events, activities or achievements which can be put into your child's Learning Journey! Feel free to write us a note, have a chat to a member of staff, post on dojo or bring in a photo, drawing or souvenir to share with us. When you tell us about your child a clearer picture unfolds and together, we can plan more effectively to help your child's learning and development.