

As readers and writers ...

Phonics continues to be the most important part of our daily routine. It helps us to read and spell words, enabling us to write and read captions and sentences.

We will focus on stories about animal adventures including 'Six Dinner Sid' and 'Arthur'. We will retell these stories simply, in our own words.

There will be lots of opportunities to read non-fiction books when we find out about different kinds of domestic animals and more exotic animals in the jungle!

In writing we will describe our family pets and write simple information books about how to care for them. We will explore farms, drawing simple maps and writing labels.

As speakers ...

We now understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.

We will fully engage in non-fiction books, opening up opportunities to ask and answer questions about where animals live and what they need to stay alive. If we don't understand something we will be encouraged to ask the teacher.

There will be lots of new language to explore in this topic linked to animals of all shapes and sizes! Please help us to use the vocabulary on the attached list.

As a class member...

We will be discussing how animals need love and care just like people do. We will think about how we show love and care to each other in our class.

While thinking about how we look after animals, we will also focus on how we can stay healthy by keeping clean, getting plenty of exercise, lots of sleep and healthy food choices.

St Teresa's Primary School

Reception Learning Guide

Spring 2 2024

All aboard the animal arc!



How can you support your child?

Read stories together as often as possible, talking about the characters and retelling the story.

Continue to encourage your child to be as independent as possible, managing their own hygiene needs and dressing themselves.

Practise forming letters correctly and writing numbers to 10.

Follow your child's interests and provide opportunities to explore and extend them.

Explain any new words to your child and encourage them to use them in different contexts.

As investigators...

This half term we will be scientists and investigate different types of animals from domestic to wild. We will learn the names of animals and describe them. We will sort them into different groups and think about what they need to stay alive.

As geographers we will learn about different places where animals live, from farms in our country to the African plains and the jungle. We will locate these places on a world map and talk about how they are different.

In our outdoor area we will plant seeds and observe how they grow, learning how to take care of them, thinking about what they need to survive.

As Mathematicians...

In number, this half term, we will be **counting** to 20 and beyond, knowing the sequence of numbers.

We will compare numbers to 10 using the language fewer, more, less and equal to and say the number that is 1 more or 1 less.

We will subitise confidently to 5 and begin to subitise 6,7 and 8 by seeing smaller amounts within them. We will recall number bonds to 5, including some subtraction calculations.

In shape and space we will be comparing the length, weight and height of different objects using simple units of measure.

We will continue to focus on number recognition and formation to 10 and beyond.

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Physical Development ...

We will continue to have regular handwriting lessons to improve our letter formation and the size of our letters.

We will form our letters correctly and our drawings will include lots more detail, not just people.

In the outdoor and indoor space there will continue to be lots of opportunities for us to develop our body strength and coordination. We will use climbing equipment and small apparatus.

Home Learning ...

'Help at Home' workbooks will be sent out each week with a phonics-based task.

Pick- and- mix homework tasks- this is a selection of topic related activities for the half term. Select which ones you would like to try at a time that suits you and send them back into school.

Reading – Children will be bringing phonics scheme reading books and 'Super Speedy' word cards home. Please try to practise 4 times a week.

Key Events...

Tuesday 5th March – children can wear P.E kits for Hoopstarz.

In school we love 'World Book' day, celebrating a love of reading on Thursday 7th March. We are celebrating a love of books across the term. Children can come dressed up as an animal and bring in a wooden spoon and any old books to donate.

We have another 'Stay and pray' on Friday 8th March in the lower school hall to celebrate how our grownups love and care for us.

Friday 15th March – Red nose day, children can wear red and bring in a donation.

The second parents evening will take place this half term: Wednesday 20th and Wednesday 27th March – more information to follow.

This half term's BIG question...

Do all animals hatch out of eggs?

As expressive artists and designers...

This half term we will focus on 'Our World' in music, exploring the sounds of nature.

There will be a focus on observational drawings and weaving. We will focus on Design Technology, designing and baking an Easter biscuit.

There will be lots of role-play experiences for us to enjoy! We will develop our knowledge of animals through play and explore the new vocabulary we have learnt when developing story plots in our play. These will include Vets, a Farm Shop and Café.

PE...

P.E is Wednesday.

This half term we will be exploring large apparatus, climbing over, under, through and around safely. Learning to balance and control our movements will be a key focus.

We will continue to be learning to form our letters correctly and use a knife and fork as well as develop our skills with other hand-held tools and equipment.

It is important that children arrive to school in their **PE kit** (white/purple t-shirt, blue/black shorts/joggers and warm blue/black top and trainers).

Remember that there should be no earrings worn on PE days. Please check your child's name is visible in all items of clothing.