

# Reception Newsletter Spring 2020



Welcome back to all our families after the Christmas break. We hope that you had a happy time celebrating with families and friends. Thank you for all your kind messages, cards and gifts over the Christmas season - they are greatly appreciated! Thank you to all who attended the Nativity performances - you were no doubt as proud of the children as we were! They worked so hard at rehearsing their songs and words, and really showed how much they had grown over the past term!

We're look forward to an exciting term of learning as they continue to build on the good start made during the past term.

**Topics:** During the first half of the Spring term, we will be asking the question 'Is it winter everywhere?' We have already started discussing features associated with winter, and it would be good to discuss the changes that children observe in the weather / the environment on their journey to school or whilst out and about. We will also be making links with the past by discussing ways in which houses were kept warm in winter a long time ago. As part of our work for 'Understanding the world' we will be learning about animals who live in the Arctic regions, but will also be learning about animals in very warm countries.

We will continue sharing stories with the children on a regular basis. These will include 'Stick Man' (Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler), Lost and found (Oliver Jeffers), Handa's Surprise (Eileen Browne) and 'The very hungry caterpillar' (Eric Carle). As these form parts of our 'Books to love' collection, it may be worth looking out for these books at the local library to read at home during story time.



During the second half of the Spring Term, we will be focussing on modern children's classics, and, as part of our work on the story of the 'Little Red hen', each of the Reception classes will be visiting Pizza Express to make their own pizza (further details to follow).

**Reading:** It has been pleasing to see the increase in the number of reading certificates that the Reception children are achieving. Please continue to support your children in developing their reading skills. Also remember that when children have read any 'Bug Club' books, the names of these books should also be included in their Reading Records. Encourage children to look for the bug on each page to answer the questions about the

story, as this helps to develop their comprehension skills. Children should be reading to an adult at home at least 5 times a week, as regular reading is required in order for them to reach the Expected level in Reading by the end of their Reception year.

**R.E:**

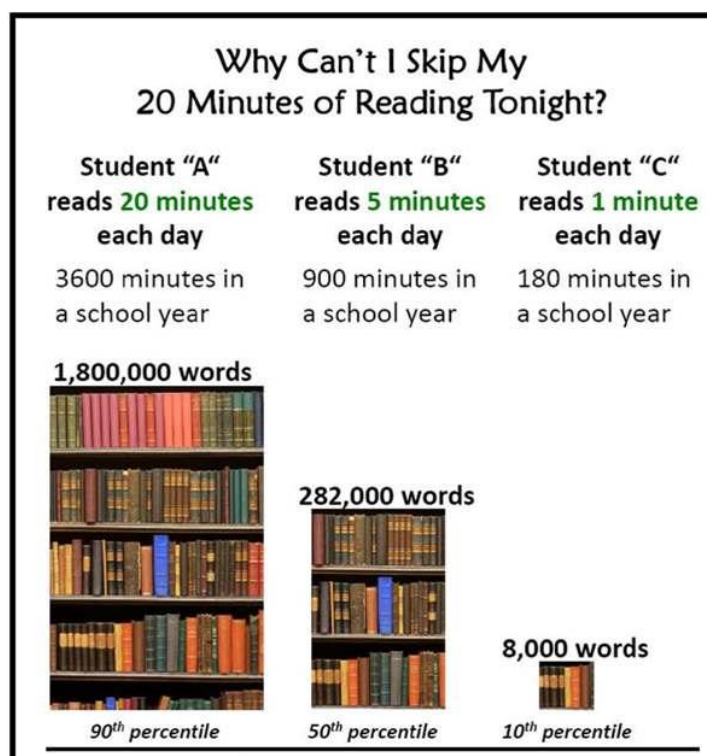
Our R.E themes for the term will focus on developing an understanding of Celebrations, particularly those associated with the Parish Community. We will also discuss gathering together as a Parish Community.

**Key dates:**

14<sup>th</sup> February: INSET day - School closed for pupils.

26<sup>th</sup> February: St Luke's to Pizza Express (details to follow)

4<sup>th</sup> March: St Helen's to Pizza Express (details to follow)



**By the end of Year 6, Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school ... and in life?**

(Adapted from Nagy & Herman, 1987)