



Spring 1 Newsletter 2024

Dear Reception Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! We hope that you all had a restful holiday break. We are looking forward to another exciting half term filled with many new learning opportunities. Your children have been sharing all their wonderful holiday experiences with us. We would really appreciate it if you could upload some of the pictures you took over the holidays on Tapestry so your child can also share this in class. If you are having difficulty accessing it Tapestry, please speak to your class teacher and they will be able to assist.

We would like to thank you for your support with forest school, and coming to share your special celebrations with our classes last term. If you would like to share a story, set up a science experiment, a special celebration, cooking, gardening, woodwork, etc please let your class teacher know.

Dates for your diary

Open Morning – Friday 26th January at 9am – in Gwen John or Gainsborough Class
Parents workshop - Thursday 1st February at 8.50am in the Eco Hub. **Zones of Regulation** – strategies we use in school to support your child to self-regulate their emotions and feelings independently of with support.

This half term, we will be focusing on the areas outlined below;

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: As your children are very settled and conversant with the rules and expectations of the school and their class, we will be focusing on how to be sensitive and empathetic towards others. We will do so by sharing books, videos and acting out different scenarios for the children to offer their views and opinions on these situations. We will also revisit the zones of regulation to support our children in understanding their feelings and emotions and how they can self-regulate independently or with our support.

We will continue to use circle time to focus on making and extending friendships groups and problem solving. We encourage children to talk about their worries and concerns and we will be discussing e-safety this term. I am sure your children have told you about the PANTOSAURUS song (<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>). This term we will use the Thinkuknow resources for 4-7year olds (https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7) to support children's understanding of keeping safe online.

We will be learning about healthy lifestyles and we will make some healthy snacks in class. We will also have discussions about the importance of respecting living things and how we can look after ourselves and our environment.

Communication and Language: We will listen to and talk about selected non-fiction books to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary. As usual, children are always encouraged to talk and extend their language during circle time and as they explore the indoor and outdoor activities. We will model questioning, answering, writing ideas and questions in a variety of ways. We encourage all children to focus on a particular activity that interest or inspires them and create opportunities for them to present this to the class during the spring term. We were blown away by all the amazing

things and ideas your children decided to share with us during their show and tell week last term. All children will be assigned their week to share their interests and you are encouraged to upload pictures or videos on Tapestry for them to share.

Physical Development: Most of our children are showing great progress in their letter formation so we will continue to encourage them to do this more consistently through Letterjoin. It is essential that you follow the same letter formation programme as the school so that your child develops good muscle memory and does not get confused.

Our weekly P.E sessions on Friday will continue as usual. The focus this half term is gymnastics.

Literacy: For our Talk for Writing topic, we will be learning the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff. As part of this, we will explore topics such as: bridges, instruction writing, fairy tale villains, and the natural world. Later, we will focus on The Magic Paintbrush as we learn about the Lunar New Year.

We will be using story maps and actions to retell stories orally. We will also discuss characters, settings and the structure of stories and encourage the children to write or draw their own versions of each story. We will be focusing on captions and sentence structure (capital letters, finger spaces and full stops) and the use of their phonics knowledge to support independent writing. We will be reading more regularly with children in class and we would like you to do the same at home to support our children to develop this skill.

Phonics: Sounds Write Programme: blending and segmenting words. Reading words and writing simple sentences. We will be reviewing the sounds we learnt last term and focus on two-letter-spelling sounds such as ss, ff, ll, zz, sh, ch and ck.

Hand writing :Your children are making excellent progress with their letter and number formation. Please continue to practise at home using Letter join www.letterjoin.co.uk The details are as follows:
<https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/log-in.html>

User name: vt0471

Password: home



Maths: We will be focusing on recognising and representing numbers within 10 and beyond. We will learn how to solve more complex addition and subtraction number sentences, and begin to learn how to group and share numbers. We will also be looking at the concept of calendar and time.

Understanding the World: We will be discussing the importance of recognising that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways. We will be discussing New Year celebrations, Lunar New Year and Valentine's day. We will be using ICT software to explore children's interests as we investigate the signs of the Spring season.

Forest school: This will continue to take place on Wednesday (Gwen John) and Thursday (Gainsborough) mornings. Children will continue to have one-hour sessions each week. Once the weather starts to improve, we aim to have whole morning forest school sessions for each group (half of the class) every other week. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing on their allocated day. Also ensure that all their clothing is clearly labelled so it is easier for us to find just in case it has been mislaid. Please encourage your child to learn how to dress and undress independently as this truly supports them and us.

Expressive Arts and Design:

Visual Art – We will be focusing on the work of our class artists Gwen John and Gainsborough

Music- The children will be exploring music and songs with Jeanie.

If you have, any further queries please contact your class teacher on the email below.

Gwen John – Natasha Crabbe – natasha.crabbe@campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk

Gainsborough – Alexandra Baker – alexandra.baker@campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk

The entire Reception Team, would like to extend our sincere thanks for your generous gifts and kind words at the end of last term. It truly means a lot to us!

Have a lovely week!

The Reception Team