



Dear Reception Parents and Carers

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a lovely half term 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 adventures 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 read a story, set up a science experiment, a special celebration, cooking, gardening, etc please let your class teacher know.

Key dates:

20th (Gainsborough) and 21st (Gwen John) March (afternoon)– School trip to Alexandra Palace. This will support our learning about London landmarks and Stephen Wiltshire. Please get in touch with your class teacher if you would like to volunteer.

22nd March – World Book Day! We will be celebrating our love of reading and literacy. Children can dress as their favourite hero or villain. There is a competition to decorate a paper plate as your favourite story – we look forward to seeing your entries!

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

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: We will continue to focus 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 be learning about our relationships with those around us through discussing our family, understanding other people's roles in our lives, and resolving conflicts with our friends.

Communication and Language: We will focus on describing events in more detail, through telling stories, and discussing the steps taken to reach a goal. We will use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities to explain how things work and why they might happen.

During play, children are encouraged to talk and extend their language. We 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 we will create opportunities for them to present this to the class during the spring term. We have been focusing on learning a rich variety of descriptive words to use, and learn new vocabulary daily.

Physical Development: Please continue to practise handwriting at home using Letter Join. If you're not sure how to access this, speak to your class teacher. Please also continue to encourage your child to eat their food with a knife and fork, and dress themselves, as these are important steps in their physical development. Our weekly P.E sessions on Fridays will continue as usual. The focus this half term is gymnastics, in which the children will be learning how to move in a variety of ways with balance and control.

Literacy: We will be exploring traditional tales – The Gingerbread Man and writing diaries. We will be using story maps and actions to retell stories orally. We will also be discussing characters, settings and the structure of stories and encouraging 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 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 focusing on CVC (eg: dog), VCC (eg: and), CVCC (eg: clap), CCVCC (eg: drink), CVCCC (eg: limps), and CCCVC (eg scrub) words. We will be reviewing the sounds we learned last term and focus on (two letters spellings) sounds such as sh, ch, ck, th, wh and qu. We have learned quite a few high-frequency words now including: I, a, of, for, are, the, was, all, is, some, come. Please practise recognising these words with your child. This term we will also learn the following words: to, there, their, these, what, where, who, he, she.

Maths: We will be focusing on number patterns within 15. We will learn about doubling and halving, and we will explore shape and pattern in more detail. Please practise writing numbers at home, and remember to put the digits in the right order when writing numbers after 10 (eg: children often make the mistake of writing 21 instead of 12).

Understanding the World: As Spring begins, we will begin to describe the changes we see, hear, and feel whilst outside. We will also discuss environments that are different to the one we live in – exploring countries and habitats around the world.

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 misplaced.

Expressive Arts and Design:

Visual Art– We will be focusing on creating collaboratively: sharing ideas, resources, and skills.

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

Check out <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people> for some fantastic resources to use at home!

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

Have a lovely week!

The Reception Team