

Our Phonics Learning

This half term the children will:

Learning phase 3 sounds: j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th and ng.

We will also introduce all of the Upper Case letters.

The children will continue to read and write CVC words and will begin to write short captions linked to their phonics knowledge.

You could help your child with their phonics learning by:

- Reading your child's reading book regularly at home and filling in the reading diary.
- Practice all of the sounds sent home
- Practice writing short captions/sentences.
- Practice oral blending, such as "can you find your h-a-t"

In RE we will be looking at stories that Jesus told. Focusing on different parables, starting with The Good Samaritan. We will be making a collection of the children's favourite stories from home.



Reception Newsletter

Spring 1 2026



The title of our current topic is: Down in the Jungle

This half term we will be learning all about Jungles, looking specifically at the different animals that live in the jungle, what the weather is like and what different plants and trees grow there.

The children will be taking part in lots of jungle themed creative activities, such as threading pasta to make snakes, creating cardboard tube lions, paper weaving Handa's baskets, exotic fruit printing, creating rain makers and making their own binoculars to explore the jungle!

Linking to the topic of jungles, we will be focusing on the text 'Handa's Surprise'. The children will be exploring different exotic fruits from the story and using their fantastic phonics knowledge to label the different fruits and animals from the story.

We will be learning all about Chinese New Year and will be creating a Chinese café in the home corner. The children will be immersing themselves into the Chinese culture; taking part in Chinese food tasting and practicing a dragon dance!

Other news & updates about our class:

This half term P.E will be on Thursdays. Reading books will continue to be given out on Fridays, please return these weekly ready to be changed. We ask that reading books are brought into school daily so we can read with your child in class.

Our Mathematics Learning

This half term the children will:

In Mastery Number we will be continuing to subitise within 5, focusing on dot patterns.

We will be matching numerals to quantities within 5, Counting – focusing on ordinality and the 'staircase' pattern (noticing that each number is one more than the previous number).

We will be focusing on 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit' and will be comparing sets using language of comparison: more than, fewer than, an equal number. We will also be solving problems of how to make unequal sets equal.

In 'Shape, Space and Measure' we will be looking at weight, and what factors make things heavier or lighter.

You could help your child with their Maths learning by:

- Singing counting songs that focus on counting forwards and encourage the children to join in with the actions '1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive'; 'Two Little Dicky Birds Sitting On a Wall'.
- Compare groups of objects using language of fewer than, more than, equal to.
- Speedy fingers – "show me 3" "show me 5" asking the children to show the amount on their fingers.
- Subitising games – flash up to 5 objects under a blanket – can your child quickly spot how many without counting?