

Reception Newsletter Spring 1



Topic: Down in the Jungle!

Our Literacy Learning

In Literacy we will be reading and writing all about 'Handa's Surprise', we will begin to write short captions relating to the theme of jungles and rainforests.

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 are super excited to be starting our Drawing Club journey this half term – focusing on the story 'Monkey Puzzle'.

Drawing Club, introduced by Greg Botrill, is a fantastic scheme developed to immerse children into the magic of reading and writing, in a fun and exciting way, combining reading, writing, drawing and even maths! Drawing Club will be implemented over three weeks; focusing on a story, a poem and an animation.

Our Phonics Learning

In phonics we will be learning the sounds: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er, words with double letters: dd, mm, tt, bb, rr, gg, pp, ff.

Tricky words: was, you, they, my by, all, are, sure, pure.

How you can help support Phonics at home:

- Sharing books
- Blending sounds into words e.g, can you get your h-a-t? Can you touch your h-ea-d?
- Practice the sounds in the homework books
- Writing their name

Websites:

[https://www.littleandlettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/ Nursery Rhymes and](https://www.littleandlettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/Nursery_Rhymes_and)

This half term we will be learning all about Jungles and Rainforests, teaching the children all about Kenya and other parts of the world. We will be looking at the different jungle animals and the what the weather is like in the rainforests.

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!

We will also 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:

PE will take place on Wednesday mornings, please send your child into school in their PE kits every Wednesday.

Book bags must be brought each day, reading books will be changed every Friday.

Please practice the sounds and words in your child's homework book and tick when this has been done.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to Miss Hall or Mrs Knight.

Our Maths Learning

In Mastery Number we will be continuing to subitise within 5, focusing on die 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 compare 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.

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

How you can help support Maths at home:

- 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?

