



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

Nursery and Reception

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2020

Welcome back and a very happy new year to you all. A warm welcome also to our new Nursery children and families. We hope you all had a fabulous Christmas break and are ready for another busy and fun filled term.

We will start off the Spring Term with a walk into 'Winter Wonderland'. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be taking some winter walks around the school and village, looking at the seasonal changes. We shall be exploring the Polar Regions and making comparisons between the habitats of different animals. We also have lots of creative activities planned including Polar Bear painting, stick collages and making snowmen. All we need now is some real snow to enjoy!

Later this half term we will move onto our 'Perfect Pets' topic. We shall be learning about the weird and wonderful animals kept as pets. We shall read a range of story and information books about different pets and Reception children will practise their writing skills creating Pet Shop Adverts and animal riddles.

If you have any pets at home that you would be willing to bring into school for us to meet please let Mrs Rumble or Mrs Hope know, it would be wonderful for the children to have as many experiences with real pets as possible.

After our half term break we shall be exploring the new seasonal changes as we move into Spring. Once again we will take the children out and about looking for signs that Spring is on its way. Keeping with the animal theme this term we shall move onto exploring life 'Down on the Farm'. During this half of the term we are hoping to arrange visits to a local farm and to the cow shed at the bottom of the village. Keep your eyes peeled for more information later in the term.

Reading

All children in Nursery and Reception will continue to bring home a library book each week to enjoy with parents and families. Please keep this book in book bags so it is in school and ready for changing each week.

Reception library day will be on a **Wednesday**.

Nursery children do not have a set day; it will be according to the days that they attend.

Here at Twyford School we fully believe that reading is the key to learning so we greatly appreciate your support in developing your child's reading skills by sharing their book at home **daily**. Reading books will continue to enable your child to practise their phonic sounds through segmenting and blending. This term we shall also have a greater focus on being able to read the 45 key words by sight. These words can be found in your child's home learning pack and it would be great if you could practise these with your child regularly through the week.

The children in Nursery will continue to be introduced to a new letter sound each week through songs, rhymes and actions. It would be great if you could encourage your child to spot these weekly sounds whilst you are out and about. We will turn your child's ears on with lots of listening games too!

Home Learning

New activities will be coming home with your child over the next few weeks to add to their home learning packs. Please remember that these packs are not weekly homework but include a range of activities which support the work we are doing in school. It would be great if you could work

with your child to do some of these activities each week as they will all support key developmental skills your child should achieve by the end of their Reception year.

Kinetic Letters

On the 6th January all staff attended an exciting training day based on a handwriting initiative called **Kinetic Letters**. We explored the links between physical development and writing skills and how important it is to develop strong bodies in order for children to be able to write with ease and fluency. We shall be introducing all the children in Nursery and Reception to key principles from Kinetic Letters and will start by exploring animal positions to build strength and coordination. Ask your child to show you their **Stone Lion, Meercat, Strong Gorilla and Lying Lizard** and see how long they can hold the position for!

PE days this term will be...

Reception: **Thursday** afternoons with Mr Peacock and **Friday** mornings with Mrs Bloomfield.

Nursery: **Monday** morning with Mrs Hope and **Thursday** morning with Mr Peacock.

Please make sure your child has got their PE kit in school Monday – Friday each week and that all items are clearly labelled with their name, including their bag.

Summer Term

We will conclude our year with our Fantasy topic. We are looking forward to inviting our Daddy's or Grandad's in to celebrate Father's Day with us and our annual Sports Day. More details to come later in the year about our lovely Grandparent's Day too!

Hopefully this newsletter has given you a brief snapshot into an exciting couple of terms ahead. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to pop in and see Mrs Rumble or Mrs Hope and don't forget to check out the Nursery and Reception outside whiteboards for latest news and information.

Mrs K Rumble

Early Years Lead Teacher