

Reception Curriculum Overview

Spring 1



Communication and Language

We will continue to develop the children's listening and attention skills and increase their vocabulary through our short English lessons. We will focus our learning firstly around the book 'Yucky Worms' by Vivian French. This book is mixture of fact and fiction and offers many opportunities for writing and also exploring our outdoor area. We will even be making our own wormery! Our second book is a beautiful poetry book called 'A Great Big Cuddle' written by the wonderful Michel Rosen. This gives the children the opportunity to appreciate and perform many different poems.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term we aim to promote the children's independence by challenging them with achievable tasks such as zipping their own coats up and putting their own lunch trays away in the dinner hall. We will also work on maintaining and strengthening the children's relationships through team games and group discussions and continue to develop our mutual respect for our peers, staff members and our environment. Dojos will continue to be given as a reward for following the school rules and a dojo treat will take place every Friday afternoon as a reward for the children's hard work all week.

Physical Development

Fine motor skills are an essential skill to develop in Reception to enable our children to write. Our 'Funky Fingers' table is regularly updated to invite children to complete tasks like threading and fiddly activities that involve pinching their fingers to get those finger muscles working.

Outdoor play is encouraged during provision time where children can explore moving in a range of ways and practise controlling objects such as balls, bats and Frisbees.

We also have practical sessions with our sports coach each week to practise team games and different types of movements.

Literacy

We will continue working through the Read, Write, Inc program for our phonics lessons.

The children are making great progress and are developing skills which allow them to break down and read words and short sentences. These sessions also focus on letter formation and writing, giving children the skills they need to write phonetically and independently.

Maths

We continue to have short group sessions which are always practical and involve lots of play. We have a maths area in the classroom where children can explore and develop their skills through a wide range of resources. We focus this half term on composition of numbers to 5, as well as learning skills that allow us to compare numbers, mass and sizes.

Expressive Arts and Design

Our creative area is a very popular space in the classroom, there are always activities set up but children also have the opportunity to make or design anything they wish in the spur of the moment. They may remember someone's birthday and want to make a card or decide they want to make a representation of a character from a book. We have junk modelling available as well as a large range of art and craft resources.

Understanding the World

This term we will be observing how the environment changes over time and is influenced by human activity. We will be describing different materials and their properties and uses and familiarising ourselves with some basic scientific concepts such as floating and sinking. We encourage discussions around past and present family events, our own likes, dislikes, beliefs and traditions. We will also find out about a range of everyday technology.

Reception

Spring 1 Newsletter



Reminders

- Please ensure your child has a **spare set of clothes** in a bag in school, in case we need to change them. Please include **underwear and socks**.
- Please ensure your child has a pair of **wellies** that they can keep at school.
- Please make sure your child has a **water bottle** that they can keep in school.
- If your child has an **asthma inhaler**, please make sure we have one in school and that it is in date.
- Children must be in correct **school uniform** at all times. This includes appropriate footwear. **Please ensure all of your child's uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name.**

Class Dojo We continue to use 'Class Dojos' as a reward system. Teachers continuously encourage and reward positive behaviours by giving whole class and individual Dojo points. Each child works hard to earn dojos, ready for Dojo treat on a Friday. The child with the most dojos on Friday also chooses a prize from our special prize box!

Important Diary Dates

School closes for half term on Friday 18th February.

Home Learning Your child's **reading book will be changed every Friday** – please ensure it is in school ready for Friday's phonics lesson! All children will also have reading time with their teacher on a Friday but it is essential that they get extra opportunities to read out loud to an adult or sibling at home to further improve their reading skills.

Teacher's Message

Welcome back to another half term and a New Year! Let's hope 2022 is a more settled and peaceful year for us all!

As we come into the spring term, the children are ready to really take off with their learning. They have been coming on leaps and bounds so far and we have been amazed at their enthusiasm to learn. This term we will be really pushing their reading and writing skills and would love it if parents could also promote this at home. This could be a game of 'I spy,' sounding out the things you can spot to help with phonics. "C-a-t" or a "b-o-x." Also, please continue to read as much as possible at home, this includes listening to them read their school reading book but also reading out loud to them, a bedtime story is a great opportunity for this!

Focus children

We will continue with three focus children per week to record extra observations for your child's learning file. Please look out for your child bringing a letter home to ask for photos of family experiences such as days out, trips to the park, pets, etc. These can be emailed to the Early Years email account: brentnall.earlyyears@salford.gov.uk



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