



Reading

The children will be bringing home their first individual reading books over the next week. These are issued during one of the daily reading sessions, where individuals read with the class teacher. This will be a set day for your child. In addition to reading with the class teacher, children will also read with the class teaching assistant when they will be given a new book.

When listening to your child read, please encourage them to use the picture clues to retell a story or where applicable use their phonic knowledge to decode words. Please listen to your child read a little every day throughout the week, making a comment / signing their green Home Learning Log . PLEASE ENSURE BOOKS ARE IN SCHOOL EVERYDAY.

Phonics (Read Write Inc)



Throughout this term we will be teaching the children the Read Write Inc. sounds and picture clues. Please refer to your child's sound card bag which was in their summer activity pack. To help at home please continue to add more pictures, with your child, to their 'Sounds Book'.

Please ensure you are modelling letter sounds rather than letter names to enable your child to begin to sound out words.

RE



In RE this term we will be looking at the theme of 'Creation'. We will read the story in the bible, and explore the concept of God.



Our topic this half term is: **It's good to be me!**



*We will explore the big question,
'Is it OK to be different?'*

Topic learning

We will start our topic talking about and exploring physical differences and painting self-portraits. Then we will learn how we like and dislike different things. Your child's chatterbox gives us a perfect opportunity to learn more about them and for the children to explore their similarities and differences.

We will look at their personal history, learning about their life so far, how they have changed over time, and talk about growth and change.

We will begin our learning about how to be Heartsmart, introduce BORIS the robot and learn about how we are all important, unique & loved.



Maths



This term we will be using BBC 'Number blocks' to support our learning as we meet characters 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

As you will remember from our Maths workshop, we will look at each number in depth. This Mastery approach enables us to fully explore each number's value, how it relates to others and explore different ways in which they can be represented.

We will teach different ways to make each number using addition as well as learning about linked shapes e.g. when learning all about 4 we'll learn about squares and rectangles.

Other mathematical areas such as measure, time and money will be incorporated along the way e.g. when learning about 2 we'll learn how 2 is represented on a 2 pence coin.

Want to help?

Discuss their personal history by looking at photos of when they were younger and talking about the different stages of development.

Discuss:

- What makes them unique and special
- Their features
- Their family - not only who lives in their house (including the pets!) but also grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.
- Their likes and dislikes

Library Books



Your child will have brought their first library book home last week. Each week they will choose a new library book from our Reception unit library to share with you. They will change this book on a set day which we will inform you of in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime please ensure it is in their bag every day.

Travelling Toy



Every Friday the class travelling toy will pick one of the children at random to go home with for the weekend.

Each travelling toy has a diary which we would like you and your child to complete when it is their turn. Please return the travelling toy on Monday along with their diary so that your child can share what they have been doing with the class.

Water bottles



Please could you ensure that water bottles are in school every day. The bottles we sent home are the perfect size for our bottle racks therefore can we please ask that you use these. You can personalise them with stickers and name labels of your own to make them more recognisable.

We will ensure that they are sent home each day so that they can be washed and refilled for use the next day. Please only refill your child's bottle with water.

In the Spotlight



If your child has had the travelling toy **at the weekend**, as part of their special turn they will also be 'In the Spotlight' the following week at school. As part of this they will have a special display in the classroom all about them.

When they return the travelling toy diary on the Monday, we ask that they also bring in a couple of photos of themselves to add to their special board.

Wellies



Each child needs a pair of wellies which can be kept at school.

Please add these to the racks outside our classrooms as soon as possible, ensuring they are clearly named.

Tapestry



We will continue gathering information about your child's strengths and next steps over the coming weeks and we will begin to build a picture of how they learn.

Once all Tapestry forms are returned, your parent profiles will be set up and you will start receiving notifications of observations we have made at school.

This is a new system for us so please bear with us as we familiarise ourselves over the next half term.

PE Days:



Please bring your child's PE kit in each Monday morning and we will send it home each Friday.

Our PE sessions are on Friday afternoons and we will send the children home wearing their kit.

This term we will be focussing on Write Dance, our pre-writing dance programme.

Please ensure your child has the following item **every week**: *shorts, white t-shirt, jogging bottoms, PE jumper, plimsolls and socks*. We ask that you check that all items are clearly named — including shoes, plimsolls and PE bags. Please add a name label or personalised key ring to the outside of the bag so that the adults can help your children find their own bag.

We understand it can be frustrating for parents when items go missing though it is an impossible task for us to return items when they are not named.

Summer holiday pack

We hope you had fun doing the summer activities with your child.

The zippy folder will now become their school reading folder so please empty it and send it in every day in their book bag.

The contents of the pack are yours to keep and to carry on using if you wish.

