



## Reception Thames Class Curriculum Newsletter

Spring One 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great first term and the children have settled really well into school. It was lovely to see how happy the children were to be back in school and to see their friends.

In **Literacy**, the children have been learning their sounds and we have all noticed a such a difference in both their reading and writing. During this term, in phonics, we will be continuing to learn the phase three sounds. You might hear your child talking about digraphs (when two letters make one sound, such as 'sh' in 'shed') and trigraphs (when three letters make one sound such as 'igh' in light). The children are now using their knowledge to read words (blending sounds) and sentences. They are also beginning to break up words into sounds (segmenting), so they can write words and sentences. Please encourage your child to write for a purpose, such as lists, labels, letters and cards for their friends. I have sent home a sound mat with this newsletter. This is what the children use in school to help them with their writing. Your child's sound books and red words will continue to be updated on a Wednesday so please make sure they are returned on Wednesdays.

We are also having daily shared reading sessions, the link to each week's Shared Reader is uploaded to Tapestry each Friday afternoon.

Please continue to listen to your child read and write in their reading record. Remember that we want reading to be an enjoyable and fun thing to do. Choose the time carefully and if it is just a page or two, that is okay. When you read a book to your child, can they read any of the words to you? Can they spot any red words? When you are out and about, can they read any words on signs? Or spot digraphs? It really can be done anywhere.

This half term we will be focusing on the story of 'The Gingerbread Man', learning the story and actions to help retell it independently. We will also be acting it out and making up our own different version of the story. We are learning the vocabulary of 'character', 'setting', 'problem' and 'solution' in relation to stories. Next half term's focus will be on a dinosaur story and looking at non-fiction texts.

In **Maths**, we have been consolidating our knowledge of numbers to five, including the composition of these numbers (e.g., five can be made up of 4+1, 3+2, 5+0 etc.). We will also be looking at vocabulary related to mass and capacity and how they can be measured. Over

this term we will be learning about the numbers six, seven and eight and combining two groups. After half term we will learn about and comparing numbers nine and ten and learning our number bonds to ten. We will also be looking at comparing height, length, mass and time. We will spend some time looking at more complex patterns and 3D shapes. There will be a maths information meeting for parents on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 2.15pm. If you can't make the meeting don't worry, I will also put the information on Tapestry.

In **PE**, we are learning different kinds of rolls and jumps and then moving on to using gym equipment. Please encourage your child to start to dress and undress independently and think about what they are wearing on PE days, so it is easy for them to get changed as independently as possible. Also, make sure that their school uniform and PE kit is named.

In our **Understanding the World** learning, we will be looking at special places, focusing on churches and mosques and then looking at how special times are celebrated including Lunar New Year. We will also be looking at seasonal changes, looking at winter, cold places in the world and the animals that live there. As spring arrives, we will look at the changes that can be observed and plant our own seeds. We will also be finding out about children's lives in different parts of the world too.

In **Art** we will be looking at the artists Henri Matisse and Jean-Michael Basquiat.

Mrs Woodley and Mrs Maver continue to cover Miss Dalton's planning time on a Tuesday afternoon.

PE Day	Sound Books and Red Word Day	Library Day
Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday

If you haven't yet been able to log into Tapestry, please let me know. Memos are often sent out with information on how to support your child at home and the opportunity to provide us with information to support your child's learning in class. A weekly round-up is also sent out every Friday.

If you have any concerns or questions, please pop in to see me or you could let me know via Tapestry.

Thank you!

Miss Dalton

Mrs Pakalna

Miss Jones

