

Friday 21st October 2022

Dear Reception parents/carers,

Reception Curriculum Letter - Autumn (2nd half)

Well done to the children for settling so well into Reception this half term. Next half term will be jam packed full of learning opportunities. Below you will find a brief outline of what we will be learning in class for each area of the curriculum.

Our Core Values

Happiness: We spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: We care and are kind to all.

Respect: We treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: We work well with everyone.

Reception Staffing

Chestnut Class teachers: Mrs Frost and Mrs Robinson

Chestnut Class learning: support assistant; Mrs Anielska

Maple Class teacher: Miss Churchill

Maple Class learning support assistant: Mrs Lamacraft

Communication

You can email class teachers directly on the class email accounts and we will do our best to get back to you within a couple of working days.

chestnutclass@harefieldinfant.com

mapleclass@harefieldinfant.com

Homework

After half term, maths and Phonics homework will be given out every Friday.

Reading

Library (story) books will come home every Friday. These can be changed on a Friday providing the previous book is returned.

Children are now beginning to learn blend words in class using the first 16 letter sounds. You can find out more about supporting your child with blending by watching these videos below;

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7niivpKJ/FJIY3mSJ>

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/h4taKhgp/EIvrFux4>

If your child is ready for blending they will begin to bring home blending books. A phonics information session for parents will be held in November with further details to follow.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our JIGSAW PSHE theme this half term is: Celebrating Difference where we will learn about how we are all different yet all special. We will find out: what we are good at, what makes us special and how we can include everyone in our work and play.

We will then learn about our families and how there are many different types of families, our home and where we live and how these can be different too.

We will also learn about friendship, what makes a good friend and how to stand up for ourselves.

Communication and Language.

We will be learning lots of news songs especially as we begin to prepare for our Nativity performance in December.

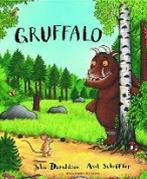
We will be working on building up our vocabulary and using extended sentences in our learning; I like this because.....This made me feel....because/and.....

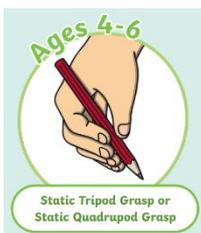
Encourage your child to use the words because/and to extend their language at home. And model expressing your feelings with extended sentences.

English

English runs hand in hand with Communication and Language, with all our work being carried out through the use of stories.

Our Key Text for this half term are;

	<p>Baby Mouse By Pie Corbett</p>	
<p>This well-loved rhyming book about a mouse's journey through the woods. Will help us to learn all about using adjectives to describe characters. We will be using different media to create our own creatures and using the sounds we know to write labels and adjectives for that character. We will make up our own journey stories using that character.</p>	<p>This repetitive journey story links nicely with The Gruffalo as it is all about a mouse going for a walk. The children will use actions and text maps to learn and retell the story before making changes to make their own version of the story and verbal retell their stories. We will also use the sounds we know to write simple words such as character names; cat, dog, rat.....</p>	<p>Another great journey story taking us nicely into the Christmas period. Children will be making their own stick men and taking them on journeys around the school. They will use pictures in the form of a text map to record their own stories and use story language to retell the story.</p>
	<p>To link with the Gruffalo we have an exciting visit from some real life owls arranged for the children. They will have a whole school assembly learning about the owls and watching them in flight. We will use what we have learnt to write information about the owls and label pictures.</p>	



Each day the children will continue to develop their fine motor skills when practicing their letter formation during phonics and practising their name writing.

Phonics

We have now taught the sounds; **m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, l, h, r.**

Please help your child embed their knowledge of the sounds these letters make by;

- Going through their speed sounds books daily.
- Completing phonics homework
- Watching the videos sent along with the homework together.
- Playing eye-spy games using letter sounds.



We will now be using the first 16 sounds to blend and read simple words and learning the next lot of letter sounds.

Fred Frog helps us with our blending by saying the sounds in words out loud for the children to blend.

The next sounds are; **j, v, y, w, z, x, sh, th, ch, qu, ng, nk**

Physical Development

Physical development is a big part of our curriculum and is split into gross and fine motor skills. The gross motor skills using big muscles is extremely important for getting children ready to write. PE is **Every Wednesday Morning** (please can your children be sent to school ready in their PE kit.) This half term we will be exploring movement through a variety dance lessons, moving in time with music and copying the moves of our partners. We will then get ready for the world cup by practising ball skills; dribbling, kicking and passing.

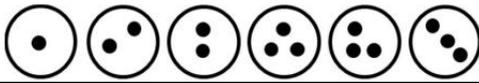
In our fine motor activities the children will have plenty of opportunities to use tools such as scissors and cutlery safely and effectively. We will be working on forming all letters correctly and drawing representational images using different shapes.

Mathematics

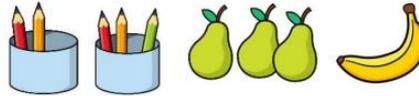
We follow a scheme called White Rose maths to teach children maths every day through short carpet sessions and then have lots of activities set up inside and outside for the children to practise developing what we have taught through their play.

This half terms phases are '1, 2, 3 it's me' and 'Light and Dark'.

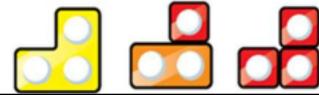
During '1, 2, 3, it's me' we will focus on learning all about the numbers 1, 2 and 3 the number bonds for these numbers. For example: $0+2 = 2$ $1+1 = 2$ and $2+0 = 2$. The order they come in. Counting objects to match amounts. What one more or less that a number is. Recognising quantities and comparing groups of objects. We will also learn all about circles and triangles. Learning all about the properties of these shapes. Whether they are straight or curved shapes, how many sides or corners they have.



What number do the dots show?



What do we have more of?

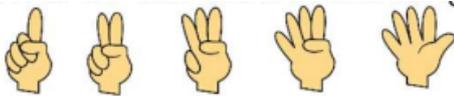


How many ways can you make 3?

During our 'Light and Dark' phase we will learn all about the number 4 and 5. The number bonds for these numbers. Where they sit on a number line. One more or less than a number with 0-5. Comparing amounts and deepening our understanding of number.

We will also learn all about four sided shapes, comparing the properties of shapes, making patterns, going on shape hunts and making our own squares and rectangles.

Before moving on to learn about time: the different between night and day, sequencing events and thinking about what we do at different times of the day.



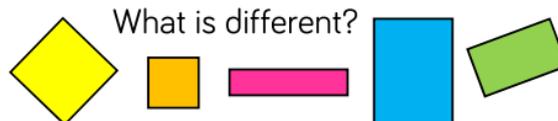
Can you count up to and back from 5?

Number of the day is 3

One less	The same as	One more



Can you order numbers to 5 correctly?
Can you count out objects to match each number?



What is different?

Number Blocks on BBC is a great programme to support your children understanding of number.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>

Understanding the World

This half term is a great opportunity to learn all about different festivals and events that happen all around the world. We will be learning all about;

- Bonfire Night and the history behind it and how we keep safe around fireworks.
- Armistice Day and why it is important to remember soldiers who fought for our freedom.
- Children in Need- how we are all different and how charity's help those how need it and how we can help others too.
- Advent and how it is celebrated all around the world.
- The World Cup will give us an opportunity to learn all about different countries around the world, how they compare to where we live. We will look at houses and homes around the world comparing them with our own.
- We will learn about Hanukah and how this is celebrated by Jewish people.
- We will of course be very busy learning the story of the Nativity and are looking forward to you all coming to see our performance in December.

Art and Design

We will be using to use a wide range of different materials to make representational images linked to themes in class, refining and adapting our skills. Returning to our art work to make improvements.

Printing using different materials to make: firework pictures and shape patterns.

Creating our own images of Poppies and learning all about the artist Monet.

Using collage materials to create our own creatures linked to The Gruffalo

Creating using natural objects such as sticks.

We will also learn about Kandinsky when making shape art work during our maths work.

We will be learning to sing in a group, matching the pitch and following a melody when learning all our new songs for the Nativity.

We will be learning to develop story lines in our play. Our role-play this half term we will have the home corner and a post office in the run up to Christmas where the children will have the opportunities to make their own cards and gifts and 'Post' them, taking on different roles.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via email on our class email accounts.

Yours faithfully

Miss Churchill and Mrs Frost
Reception teachers