

Dear Reception parents/carers,

Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Reception Curriculum Letter – Summer (1st half)

Welcome back, we hope you had a fantastic Easter break. We have a busy half term ahead filled with lots of amazing learning opportunities.

Below you can find out about what we will be learning in class and how you can support your children at home.

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 Lamacraft

Maple Class teacher: Miss Churchill

Maple Class learning: support assistant: Mrs Anielska

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

Maths and English homework is sent home every Friday. Please return this to school by the following Friday or email a photo of completed work to the class email account.

Reading

Library (story) books will come home every week.

Phonics reading books are sent home every Friday and should be returned every Friday. New books will only be given when the previous book is returned.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our JIGSAW theme this half term is: Relationships. Where the children will be learning all about; what it means to belong, how we may be similar or different from one and other.

How we can get along with everyone, managing our feelings and taking account the views of others. Being a kind and responsible friend.

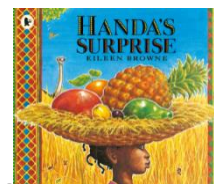
Physical Development

PE

This half term we will be focusing on Gymnastic skills in a unit called 'Jumping Jacks and Rock and Rolls'. Where the children will be learning to jump in a variety of ways with balance and coordination. Before moving on to learn how to roll in different ways including forward and backward rolls.

Fine Motor

We are working on perfecting our letter formation, making are writing smaller and neater letters that start and end in the correct place.



English

Our key text for this half term is Handa's Surprise. We will use a text map to learn this story, acting out the story using small world and costumes. Before making changes to the key text to make up and write our own versions.

We are now working on writing simple sentences independently. You can help your child at home with this by getting them to say the sentence aloud several times. Count each word using their fingers and then write a word at a time, resaying the sentence as they go. We do not expect correct spelling at this stage but children should use the sounds they know to make good attempts at spelling words. Get them to read their sentences back to check it makes sense.

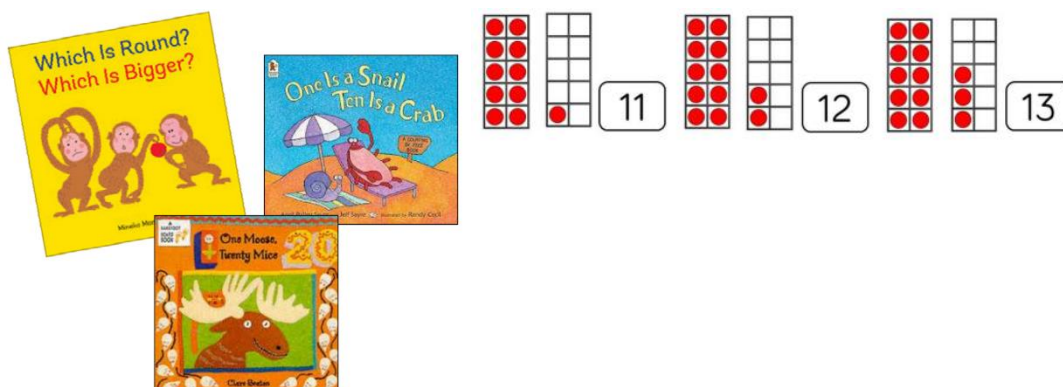
Following our school trip to London Zoo, where we hope to see many of the animals from the story Handa's Surprise the children will be using simple sentences to write a recount of their day.

We will then be learning to write a fact file on their favourite African Animal.

Mathematics

This half term phases for maths are: **To 20 and Beyond, How Many Now and Manipulate, Compose and Decompose.**

During '**To 20 and beyond**' we will be learning all about teen numbers, how they are made with one ten and ones. We will be learning to say numbers to 20 and back to 0 in the correct order. We will be relating what we know about number bonds to 10 to numbers to 20 and beyond. We will learn to count on or back from different starting points for example count to 20 from 7.



Books that support our learning.

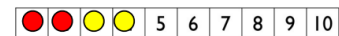
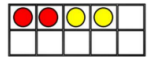
During our phase of **How Many Now** we will be learning to complete addition and subtraction problems using objects to support their learning. At home, you can support your child with their learning by asking them to get you 5 toys then add another amount and see how many they have now. When eating their dinner you could count the number of carrots for example. Eat 2 and see how many they have left.



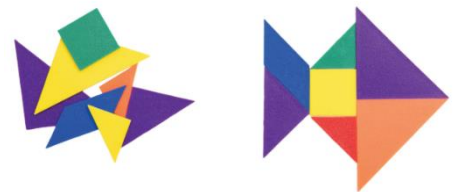
First there were 2 people on the bus.

Then 2 more people got on the bus.

Now there are 4 people on the bus.



During our phase of **Manipulate, Compose and Decompose**, we will learning all about selecting shapes for purpose. Describing position and explain shape arrangements. You can support your child at home by making shape pictures, asking them to name and describe the shapes they have used. Asking them why they have selected the shapes, they have.



Expressive Arts and Design

Music

For our music this half term, we will be learning all about African instruments and learning to use African drums to play along to the beat as we learn the song Che Che Kule. You can listen to the song here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIGMYsWs6jc>

Art

We will be learning all about Kente Cloth, a Ghanaian textile made of hand-woven strips of silk and cotton. We will be learning to print on to different materials and to weave to create patterns using paper.



Understanding the World

ANZAC day is very important for us at Harefield Infants we will learn all about the history of ANZAC and why we go down to church to lay flowers each year.

For our **Forest School** sessions, we will be visiting our lovely school pond on the junior school site to investigate what lives in the pond. We hope that we find some tadpoles so we can observe them as they develop into frogs. We will also be learning about all the different minibeasts that make our school their home.

We will be learning all about Africa, finding Africa on a world map. Comparing Africa to Britain. Finding out all about the animals that live there and the different cultures. You could do your own research at home or watch animal programmes based in Africa together.

Our White Rose Science blocks for this half term are:

From City to Sea	Look All Around	Test It Out
In this block, children continue to use the language of 'same' and 'different' to compare a range of environments, including their own. We will look at different types of city, countryside and coastal environments. Children also have the opportunity to observe key features of ocean habitats and animals, which live underwater. We will learn about sustainability and protecting the oceans.	In this block, children continue to observe seasonal changes. We will use our Forest School sessions to observe how plants change through seasons and notice the changes in the weather as we begin to move into the summer months. You can support this learning by going on walks and noticing how the trees change from Spring to Summer. Plant flowers/fruit/veg in your garden and watch them grow.	In this block, children identify objects and materials and compare their suitability for a particular purpose. This will support them to think practically about creative uses for objects and materials. We will find out about the properties of different materials such as: plastic, wool, cardboard and where they come from. Before thinking about which materials would make the best raincoat for a bear.
Key vocabulary sea ocean city same different road building car pollution animal seaweed sand water rock shell village coast plastic litter helpful harmful	Key Vocabulary summer change same different tree plant leaf flower grass building school road house weather sunny rainy cloudy windy animal warm cold	Key Vocabulary test material object best worst fabric cardboard water plastic metal hard soft wet heavy build sort thick thin light dry waterproof

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