

# Reception Learning Letter

Spring 2 2024

Resilient

Hello and welcome back. We hope you had a lovely half term break. We've got lots of exciting opportunities planned for your child this half term and we are sure your child has lots planned too! We are looking forward to the exciting celebrations coming up this half term such as, World Book Day, Mother's Day and Easter.

Responsible

Please note that we have a number of unnamed jumpers and cardigans. All clothing, including shoes and wellies must be clearly labelled with your child's full name. Please also check your labels regularly as they may wash or fall off when being washed.

## Important information for you

- School start time is 9:50 a.m. Doors will close promptly at 9:00 a.m. You will need to then go to the office to sign your child in. Please do make every effort to get your child to school on time as phonics lessons begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. This is an essential lesson in the journey of becoming a confident writer and reader, and every lesson counts.
- Snack money continues to be £1 per week or £5 for the half term
- Please return reading books on a **Wednesday** so they can be changed on a Thursday/ Friday.
- Your child will continue to receive a weekly phonics homework sheet. Each sheet has the weeks' focus sounds, sentence to practise reading, and tricky words. It is very important that you support your child with this work as you are able to reinforce the skills in reading and writing.
- **Please continue to read with your child every night. Encourage your child to sound out each letter and blend to read. Ensure that your child uses their finger to point to each sound before swiping underneath the whole word as they read. If your child is a confident reader, encourage them to 'whisper blend' and fluently sight read as many words as possible. You will need to read the book with your child several times and check individual words/ sentences.**

Resourceful

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children have a Jigsaw lesson each week in which children develop their PSED skills. This half term, children will be learning about the meaning of health through the topic 'Healthy Me! Children will continue learning about their own relationships and making good choices. Independence will continue to be supported in daily activities.

Respectful

## Communication and Language

This half term we will be continuing to support children's vocabulary. We will be learning new vocabulary related to children's interests and through our language rich environments. Our topic focuses this half term will be new life, Spring and Easter. Children will be encouraged to use language to organise and sequence their thinking. Children will use role-play as a spring board for developing language and discussions using recently introduced vocabulary that will provide the opportunity for new language to be embedded.

### Physical Development

We will continue to develop children's gross motor skills by continuing our PE lessons in the hall. We will be using our P.E passport app to monitor children's fundamental skills and challenge learners. We will also continue to develop their fine motor skills using lots of funky fingers activities such as threading and weaving and we will continue to promote the correct formation of letters.

We will continue to reinforce good practices for children's hygiene as well as providing opportunities for personal care, such as putting on their own waterproof suits, lunch time jackets and wellies for working outside.

### Mathematics

This half term we aim to consolidate children's knowledge of composition up to 10 using skills of subitising and looking at numbers in a variety of everyday activities such as money and time.

Children will order numbers in different ways using everyday materials, numicon, number cards etc. Children will find one more and one less of a given number using number lines and counting resources. We will be investigating combining two groups of objects and counting how many there are altogether and exploring ways of recording what we have found out.

This will be reinforced within children's play.

### Understanding the World

Children will explore special events that occur in the calendar such as Mothers' Day and Easter.

They will explore texts linked to Easter celebrations and look at why it is an important celebration for Christians.

Through PSHE they will discover healthy foods and we will discuss where these foods come from.

They will also study more about the changing of seasons as we enter into Spring.

In RE this half term the topic will be: Which people are special and why. The children will explore who is important to them and what makes each person special.

Children will take part in circle times talking about friendships, emotions, keeping safe and any other discussions that may occur.

### Literacy

This term we will be reviewing Phase 3 of the Little Wandle letters and sounds scheme and introducing words with two or more digraphs. Children will be encouraged to blend and segment words when reading and writing and this will be reinforced within the learning environment. Our focus texts this half term will be, Hattie Peck, non-fiction texts and poetry around the theme of spring and Easter stories. Children will be building and writing sentences around these texts to create storymaps, character descriptions and speech bubbles. Children will be involved in handwriting activities to develop pencil control and correct formation of letters. Please note that when teaching letter formation, we will use the following vocabulary-

Ascender – 'tall letters' such as t, l, h, k, b, d, f

Body letters- short letters such as a, c, e, u, o, n, m

Descenders- 'body letter with a tail' such as g, p, y

### Expressive Arts and Design

Children will be exploring a range of tools and techniques this half term to create a desired effect. They will have opportunities to make Mothers' Day and Easter crafts, 3-D structures such as houses for fairy-tale creatures. They will develop their printing, collaging and pattern skills as well as exploring a range of patterns developing their own methods to re-create them. Children will have opportunities to role play in the environment according to their interests. Children will continue following the Charanga music activities and will explore a range of percussion instruments and their sounds.