

RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

Spring I!

We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas holiday and enjoyed the time with your families. This half term is one of our favourites! Our topic focus is 'Amazing Planet'. For the first 3 weeks, the children have had the opportunity to explore and learn all about rainforests. Over the next 3 weeks, we will be learning all about jungles! This includes learning about the different types of plants, animals, and tribes within these environments. I am sure the children have been looking forward to sharing their new learning with you.

Writing

The children have made fantastic progress with their letter formation this term. Some children have been working hard to learn how to write their surnames, along with their first names. In Literacy, we are now focusing on writing captions and short sentences. The children are learning all about adding their magic 5 within their writing.

Magic 5: capital letters, finger spaces, full stops, legible handwriting and asking – does it make sense?

As always, we appreciate any support you can offer your child with their writing at home.

Phonics

Our RWI phonics sessions continue to remain high priority in Reception, and they are really helping the children to learn to blend and segment, whilst also learning to recognise and read their 'special friends' within words. We will continue to send QR codes home weekly in their learning log so that the children can continue this learning at home.

Maths

This half term we have been continuing to understand and use numbers to 10. The children have been learning to compare amounts by using the terms 'fewer' and 'greater'. We have also recapped the part-whole model to support your child in learning their number bonds to 10.

'Read With Me' sessions

We would like the opportunity to thank all of the grown-ups who attended our, 'Read With Me' sessions. These afternoon sessions are a great opportunity for you to not only share the love of reading with your child, but to also encourage language development and build their imagination. After listening to your feedback, the reading sessions will now start at 2:45pm every Wednesday for **both** classes.

Diploma

Our Diploma focus for Spring I is 'Wildlife'. The children are to complete 6 RSPB challenges that will teach them all about different ways to look after our environment and the creatures in it. Stay tuned - we will be sharing our completed challenges on Twitter!

Resources

As always, we are grateful for any resources we can use in school (especially things we can use to make models!) Please see below a list of resources we are always looking for to enhance our modelling area:

- Cardboard tubes • Various sizes of cardboard boxes • Pasta • Tin foil • Yoghurt pots • Materials • Anything interesting that you have spare and you think the children will enjoy using! **Unfortunately, we cannot accept any boxes or containers that have had seeds or nuts in them.**

Learning Log/Homework

Every **Friday**, your child will bring home a learning log, reading book and reading diary. These are to be completed and returned the following **Thursday**. Your child may receive some additional phonics work throughout the week from their phonics teacher. This work will be modelled to the children so they know exactly what to do. Please make sure you check your child's book bag daily and return the phonics books on a Thursday.

A really useful link that has a menu of activities designed to have a positive impact on learning and health:

<https://50thingstodo.org/>

Reading

At Lofthouse Gate we love to read. Each term we will have our 5 favourite class books to enjoy with the children. This term our favourite 5 books are:

Aliens Love Underpants
Monkey Puzzle
Giraffes Can't Dance
Billy's Bucket
Billy and the Dragon



'Monkey Puzzle' is our Talk for Writing book this term. The children have worked very hard to learn to retell the story using actions. If you haven't already, please ask your child to retell the story to you! They are brilliant at retelling it.

As always, if you have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to come and talk to any one of us. No problem is too small and we welcome your ideas and suggestions.

Many Thanks,

Miss Bowe, Miss Cowling, Mrs O'Connor, Mrs Pickersgill,
Miss Pickersgill and Mrs Sadler