

# RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

## Welcome Back Reception!

Can we start with saying that we hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and we are so happy to see the children back with us, even if it is virtually!

## Topic



Our new topic is called 'Amazing Planet' It covers lots of different areas of the EYFS curriculum. Above you will see our main focus for this half term. We are very excited to teach the children about the rainforest and jungles, making 3D models and dens and having lots of opportunities to develop our fine and gross motor skills.

## Google Classroom

Well it has been a very different week, but a very successful one too. On Tuesday, we all embarked on a Google classroom journey, which was a new experience for most of you with Google meets, assignments, materials, announcements and handing in work. This week, we have all had very different circumstances that we have all had to deal with, whether it was childcare, or balancing working from home and home learning, but we have all managed to have a fantastic week! The children, grown ups and staff have all pulled together and we have created a great virtual classroom for our children so they can continue to learn from home. Our children have continued to develop skills from their living rooms, kitchen tables or outdoors. They are able to keep a sense of normality in seeing their teachers and friends virtually on a daily basis and we thank you for all your support in enabling this to happen.

## Google Classroom Updates

Next week will look slightly different in our Google classroom.

Mrs Earnshaw, Miss Pickersgill and I have been working hard behind the scenes filming and creating new things to share with you on Google classroom. The time table will remain the same, but more activities will be assigned to different groups of children.

## Extra Learning Tasks

In school, children often taken to enjoy some new activities with a group of children. These are interventions that are put in place to personalise your child's learning. This might be to support them in developing a new skill, or it might support them in understanding different concepts. It may even be a group activity to extend their learning to strengthen the learning skills that they already have. You will see appear next week in Google classroom extra activities to complete in the Classwork section. These will be under the topic 'Extra Learning Tasks' The tasks that are put in here are personalised for specific groups of children that focus on a skill that we would like them to further develop weekly, as they would normally do in school. We will set these on a Monday and you have the week to complete these.

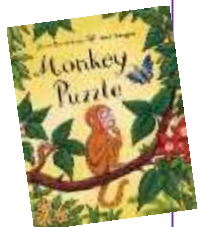
## Phonics and reading

Thank you for accessing the RWI speed sound sessions online. As you know, in school the children are placed into different groups for RWI based on where they are in the phonics programme after an assessment. Before Christmas, the children were assessed and we placed the children into new groups. We have used the groups they were placed in and we have now personalised the phonics lessons online to their specific group. There will now be another lesson led by one of your teachers assigned to you in the 'Phonics' section of classwork in the Google Classroom from Monday.

We have also had a few parents asking about phonics blending books for those children already receiving them from their phonics teachers. Because we are unable to send the books home to you, we have made online versions of the blending books that we are going to assign weekly to the children. We do apologise if you do end up with a book that you have already had. You have your child's reading record at home with you which has the details of which books they have had so please bear with us. If you do receive the same book, please comment in the assignment and we will happily sort this for you. For those children that have progressed further in the phonics scheme, you will no longer receive the blending books, but you will now receive a RWI book bag book. Again, we are hoping to send this virtually to you weekly. We hope this will help you to continue to support your child at home with phonics whilst learning at home.

## Talk 4 Writing

This half term our Talk4Writing book is Monkey Puzzle. The children will be learning about the characters (animals) in the story, creating a story map, and learning Makaton actions to support them in retelling the story independently. We will begin this shortly after our 'Mouse Deer' story.



## Our Favourite 5

This term we have chosen 5 new stories that we look forward to sharing with the children in story time:

- \* The Selfish Crocodile
- \* Rumble in the Jungle
- \* Giraffes can't dance
- \* The Highway Rat
- \* Ruby's Worry



We are very excited to have another brilliant half term with the children in school and online. Thank you so much in supporting us and your children this week and in the weeks to come. The most important thing is that we keep everything as normal as we can for the children and we have definitely achieved that together both parents and staff. As always, if you have any queries please speak to a member of the team or email [remotelearning@lofthousegate.outwood.com](mailto:remotelearning@lofthousegate.outwood.com)

## The Reception Team