



Reception Summer Term  
1<sup>st</sup> Half

Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone! We are now in the children's final term of Reception where the sun will be shining (hopefully) and we can enjoy lots of fun times ahead. We hope you have all had an enjoyable holiday with your families. Our learning theme for this half term will be 'Ticket to Ride!' where we will be thinking about different ways of travelling and sharing our knowledge of journeys. Once again, this letter is to share with you just some of the lovely things we will be doing in school across the different areas of learning. A separate trip letter will follow shortly to confirm arrangements for our local village walk and our summer term trip.

### **Phonics and writing –**

Thank you for all your hard work at home helping your children to learn their Phase 2 and 3 Tricky Words. Keep practising! If Encourage your child to spot their target tricky words in their reading books or in pieces of writing when they are out exploring (You may want to have a look through new books first to see which ones are there in preparation). Once your child is able to read their tricky words, encourage them to practise writing them. This term we will be moving on to Phase 4 phonics which focusses on consonant clusters e.g. br--,

cr--, st, -nt, -mp etc. Please continue to reinforce the correct formation of their letters at home when they create things. Encourage children to use their letter sounds in independent play writing rather than giving them the correct spellings of words (other than listed tricky words). There are examples of letter formation on our Reception page of the school website.

**Reading books** – These will continue to be changed on a **Monday** and **Friday** each week. Please can you keep your child's reading books, reading records and tricky word bags in their book bags. **Please record in the diary when you have listened to your child read their school reading book and let us know in their diary that it is ready to be changed** . If your child finishes their school reading book before book change, ask them questions about what they have read or share a book of their choice from home, school or the local library. As they progress through the reading scheme, books they become more challenging. Please continue to encourage them to look out for digraphs, trigraphs and tricky words in their reading books.

**Forest School** will continue to take place weekly on a **Thursday**. Children should come to school dressed in their school top and jumper. **They also must wear leggings or tracksuit bottoms to protect themselves in the long grass, even in the warmer weather**. Please can the children come to school in their school shoes, but ensure wellies are in school. Unfortunately, children not wearing the appropriate clothing will not participate for their own safety.

**Early Years Garden** - We are keen to develop our outdoor area garden for growing. We would like to fill our trough with sensory herbs and plants to attract wildlife. We welcome any plant donations, either in a sturdy pot or to go directly into our herb trough. **We would welcome one of any of the following:** lavender, rosemary, chives, mint, tarragon, oregano, marjoram, fennel, primroses, lettuce, alpine strawberries. Alternatively, mixed border flower tubs would also be gratefully received.

**P.E.** - The children will continue with multiskills PE lead by our spioorts coach on a Monday and either dance or an outdoor games session every Wednesday. Please make sure everything is still named as labels have a habit of falling out. Children will need a plain coloured t shirt in their house colour for sports day later in the term. A separate note will come home in your child's reading diary shortly to confirm which house team they are in.

**Suncream and hats** – As the weather changes, please be mindful of the weather forecast and make sure your child comes to school wearing suncream for the day. The 'Once a day' suncream is brilliant and you don't need to worry about your child having to reapply through the school day. Please can all children have a **named** sunhat to wear at school and keep them protected throughout the school day. **Lipbalms** should also be used before and after school if needed. If your child is suffering with dry lips, a named lipbalm can be **given to the teacher** in the morning for them to use in class during the day. Please do not leave this in their pocket or bookbag, thank you.

### **Dates for the Diary**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Stay and play learning share in Reception from 2.45pm-3.15pm

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Half term

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Transition Day (Children will spend the day with their new Year 1 teacher.

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June (8.45am) – Reception Class Assembly.

If you have any questions, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,

Mrs Hurlock and the Reception Team

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development



We will be looking at relationships and what makes a good friend? We will be talking about how to keep healthy with a focus on taking care of our teeth and keeping fit! We will also be looking at being kind to the planet and how we can help look after. We will talk about the important jobs some animals do to help people with the focus being on the Guide Dogs. We will also look at the importance of Road Safety and recap from our visitor last year about how we cross the road safely with an adult.

We will continue to share our learning pets and think about characteristics of being effective learners.

## Communication and Language



The children will have become increasingly confident in responding to discussions with comments and we will be encouraging them to ask questions and share stories and things that interest them. We will be inviting pupils to share special moments from their weekend where they will be encouraged to stand in front of the class. We will be exploring use of talk different ways; in imaginative play, to help develop their thinking, to collaborate and plan with others and to express ideas. Listen to, talk about and retell stories to build familiarity and understanding. Continue to learn rhymes, poems and songs using Makaton.

## Physical Development



**FINE MOTOR** – To continue to form letters correctly and with increasing accuracy. To mould and manipulate materials and clay to create boats and other forms of transport.

**GROSS MOTOR** – Gymnastics skills and Dance, moving to a rhythm. Climbing on the outdoor equipment with control and use of bikes. In Yoga – use of core muscle strength to achieve a good posture at a table or sitting on the floor. Use of bean bags and balls for throwing and catching and for events ready for Sports Day!

## Literacy



We will be focussing on Phase 4 phonics and becoming more confident blending and segment CVC, CVCC, CCVC words for reading and writing. Introducing more tricky words. Retelling favourite stories and class texts in their own words including recently introduced vocabulary and to write about events they remember and using new words they have learned.

Continue to use capital letters for names and beginning of sentences, fingers spaces and full stops. Key texts include: The Snail and the Whale, Mr Gumpy's Outing, The Way Back Home, Aliens Love Underpants, Bob – the Man on the Moon, Handa's Surprise, Percy's Bumpy Ride.

## Maths



Continue joining in with counting rhymes and songs. We will continue with our number formation and counting beyond 10. We will explore numbers to 20 including reading, writing and ordering these numbers. We will recap on our doubles to 10 and 20. We will continue to look at how we can make numbers and introduce the concept of number bonds. We will also use mathematical language to compare and talk about shape and size objects e.g. heavier, lighter. We will also continue with our number formation through filling in missing numbers, comparing numbers and number sequences.

## R.E.



What is special about our World? We will talk about things they find interesting, puzzling or wonderful and also about their own experiences and feelings about the world. We will re-tell stories, talking about what they say about the world, God, human beings. They will be asked to think about the wonders of the natural world, expressing ideas and feelings. We will encourage them to express ideas about how to look after animals and plants. We will talk about what people do to mess up the world and what they do to look after it.

## Understanding the World



This term we will take a walk through our village and to the local park, taking note of the landmarks that we pass. Are these natural or have they been made? We will talk about our own journeys to school and how we travel. Do we travel by car? On foot? Walk? Bus? We will talk about different ways to travel and their own experiences. Has transport changed over time? We will talk about rockets and the landing on the Moon. We will also look at different homes in Barford and encourage them to draw and talk about their own home and answer questions like, what is near your home? We will look at the changes in weather and how Forest School and our garden have changed – what can they see growing? When exploring "Handa's Surprise" we will look at the weather, land, dress, music and foods from different countries and cultures.

## Expressive Arts and Design



Join in with songs using Makaton signs when appropriate including in assemblies. Join in with role play games using small world and constructing areas to support their learning. Build models of transport vehicles using junk modelling equipment and be able to talk and evaluate their creations. Look closely at different techniques for joining materials and which methods are stronger and the most suitable to create space rockets. Look at different images of rockets to design and make their own rocket using a range of materials. Listen to and create their own music for different types of journeys e.g. horse and cart, space mission, a stormy sea. Children will learn a dance to traditional African music.