



**HALF TERM INFORMATION UPDATE**

**Reception**

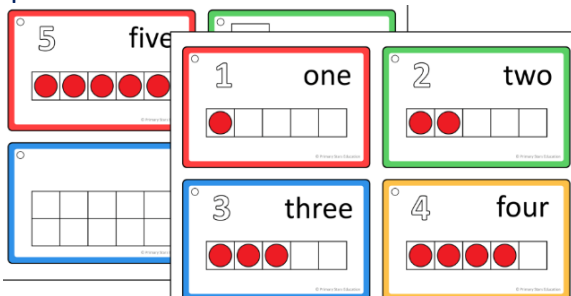
**Message from the staff:**

Welcome back to the new 2023 year! We are so excited to have all the children back in school, they have already showed us that they are enthusiastic and ready to learn.

**This half term's learning:**

**Mathematics:**

In Maths we will initially be continuing with our detailed focus on numbers to five. The children will be thinking about ways of splitting 5 into smaller numbers. They will also be introduced to zero as a number representing none, nothing. Then we will move onto to developing their understanding of numbers to 10; comparing them and splitting them into smaller numbers. We will compare mass and capacity so it might be a good idea to look at containers you have and how much they can hold. Bath time is ideal for this. We will learn about length, height and 3D shapes.



**Literacy:**

**Comprehension:** The children have stories read to them every day. They join in with the text and in many cases know the stories off by heart. This half term we are focusing on fairy tales.

**Word Reading:** The children work hard in their bespoke phonics groups. Each group matches the child's ability and so you might find your child saying they are doing something new/ have a ditty or a book. It is all right as each child gets the reading work they need.

**Writing:** Children practise their writing phonics each day. At first, they learn how to make each letter but gradually this develops into writing simple words and then short phrases. We work on developing a good pencil grip so they can write efficiently. Children choose to write often during their own time. Look out for little messages they might bring home or work posted on Seesaw.

**Personal, social and emotional development:**

We had our first 'Healthy Inside and Out' day. The children learnt about happy and angry feelings, and how to manage these.

We are learning how to be patient and take turns.

We are also introducing the children to our new school rules. Ready, responsible and respectful. We call these the 3 R's.

**Understanding of the World**

This half term the children have learnt all about the celebration of 'Chinese New Year'. We looked at the similarities and differences between this celebration and other the children have experiences. We also did some food tasting, it was yummy!

We looked at which clothing we wear in winter and the types of weather we might see. This has been very well timed with the recent cold spell, that children have seen snow and ice this week.



**Expressive art and design:**

We use a scheme for our Music lessons called Charanga. It gives the children chance to listen, sing and play music. We have also used a series of songs to help the children understand pulse. We sing and clap at two different tempos. Ask your child to sing the Music Time song, A Hiking we will go or Chop Chop and you will see what they have been up to.

**Physical development:**

Children will be having PE on Thursdays. This half term we will be focusing on gymnastics. We are learning to travel in different ways; high, low, over and under.



**Story Focus:**

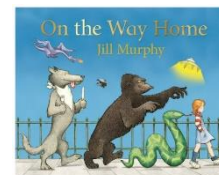
We are using stories to enhance the children's vocabularies and understanding of words. Look out for your child using advanced vocabulary that surprises you.

The books we are using this half term are:

On the Way Home- Jill Murphy

Little Red Riding Hood

Goldilocks and the Three Bears





**How parents can help at home:**

Reading- Please make sure you are reading with your child at least three times at home. Ask questions to make sure your child understands what they have read.

Maths- Practice counting to 20 with your children. You can count using different voices, count the steps when walking up the stairs or even count items you can see on the way to school e.g. blue cars.

Play lots of games to help the children to learn rules, patience, taking turns and understand they can't always win!

**Days/Dates to remember:**

-  PE is on a Thursday – In Reception we do not change into a PE kit. School uniform as normal.
-  Please make sure you write a comment in your child's reading diary if they have read their books/ditty books at home.

Please make a member of staff know if your child is being collected by someone different.