



HALF TERM INFORMATION UPDATE

Reception

Message from the staff:

Halfway through the year already! How did that happen? The children returned after the holidays to our new big classroom. It looks fantastic and we are looking forward to our 'Stay and play' sessions so you can come and see it too. This half term we are looking at animals, farm animals, wild animals, animals that live in the wild in England and zoo animals.

This half term's learning:

Mathematics:

This half term we have been learning about length and comparing the sizes of different things. We also began to learn about time and found out how many things we can do in 1 minute. We are now moving on to exploring numbers 9 and 10. We will be looking at different ways to make 10, ordering numbers to 10 and starting to learn our number bonds. We will then have a look at 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 stories about animals.

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 in phonics each day. At first, they learn how to make each letter but gradually this develops into writing simple words and then short phrases. Your child will tell you what they are working on in their lesson.

We also write in class every week. Some children compose and write their own sentences, others write a sentence that is largely phonic, dictated by the teacher.

The children's pencil grip is developing. If you need any information on an efficient grip, see the poster on Mrs Darbyshire's classroom window.

The children are encouraged to write independently during their choosing time.

Personal, social and emotional development:

We have had our next 'Healthy Inside and Out' day. The children learnt about being sensible and

Understanding of the World

This half term we are learning about all different types of animals. We have talked about animal



silly and when it is appropriate. We talked a little bit about worries and what to do about them.

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.



baby names and listened to lots of animal noises to see if we could tell which animal it is.

We have had a walk in the local area when we visited the library.

We did some pancake tasting and learnt about how this links to the Christian religion.



Expressive art and design:

We are continuing with our Charanga Music lessons, and we have extended the time a little to give us the chance to be a bit more focused.

The children are learning to play the glockenspiel to the tune of "If you're happy and you know it." They are good at keeping the time and playing at the appropriate moment.

Ask your child to sing any of these songs to you:

Five little monkeys; Doggy Doggy; Have you brought your talking voices and A Hiking we will go.

Physical development:

Children will continue to have PE on Thursdays. This half term we will be focusing on ball skills using their hands. We are practising dribbling, bouncing and throwing. Many of the children are practicing these skills in their choosing time.



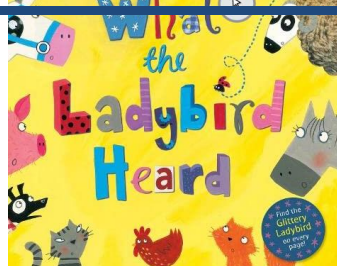
Story Focus:

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:

Mr Wolf's Pancakes by Jan Fearnley





What the Ladybird Heard by Julia Donaldson.
Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne
Poo in the Zoo by Steve Smallman and Ada Grey
The Treasure Hunt by Nick Butterworth

How parents can help at home:

Reading- Read daily stories to your child. Stories and bedtime stories are great to develop children's language. Reading daily grows the child's imagination and appreciation for stories.

Maths- Play games that involve your child to read numbers to 10. E.g. I-Spy numbers. Say a number you can see; can your child find it too?

Name writing- Continue to practice writing your child's full name.

Days/Dates to remember:

- Monday 13th February- Stay and play for class RWH. 2.30-3pm.
- Red Nose Day is the 17th March. Look out for the Seesaw message which will explain more.

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