



## HALF TERM INFORMATION UPDATE

## Reception

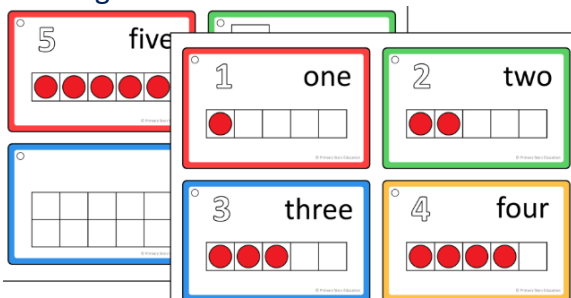
### Message from the staff:

Welcome back to the new 2025 year! We are so glad to be back properly now after the snow.

### 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. Once we have really explored this, we will move onto to developing their understanding of numbers to 10; comparing them and splitting them into smaller numbers. This is such an important foundation for all future Maths learning.



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.

#### Personal, social and emotional development:

We had our 'Healthy Inside and Out' day on Monday. The children reflected on their learning journey so far; we shared the things we are proud of and our achievements inside and outside of school.

We are learning about the Zones of Regulation and the colours to match our feelings. This will

#### 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.



In the first half term we are doing Traditional Tales. We will start by reading Little Red Riding Hood. Then The Gingerbread man.

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. Please check SEESAW for information about your child's group and how you can help at home.

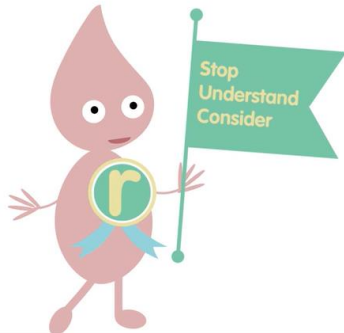
Writing: Children practice their writing in phonics each day. At first, they learn how to make each letter but gradually this develops into writing simple words and then short phrases. We work on developing a good pencil grip so they can write efficiently. Children choose to write often during their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

#### Expressive art and design:

In Spring we begin using a scheme for our Music lessons called Charanga.



help the children describe how they feel and learn ways to help manage difficult emotions.



Our My happy Mind topics this term are Appreciate and Relate. In these modules the children will be developing their understanding of gratitude, with time to think about things they are grateful, experiences and people in their lives. In the Relate module they will developing their relationship building skills, eg listening and empathy. Check out the newsletter on SEESAW for more information.



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 then you will get a flavour of what they have been up to.

We will do a mini study of the painting Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh. We will look carefully at the painting and have the opportunity to make our own swirling pictures



using paints and pastels.

### **Understanding of the World**

This half term the children will be learning about winter. They will reflect on the clothing they have been wearing over winter and the type of weather we have had!

We will also be learning about Chinese New Year. We will look at the similarities and differences between this celebration and celebrations the children have experienced.

### **Physical development:**

Children will continue to have a PE session on Wednesdays. In reception children do not need a PE kit.

This half term we will be focusing on ball skills using our hands. We are practicing dribbling, bouncing, and throwing. Many of the children are practicing these skills in their own chosen time.



### **Library**

We will start to use our library this term. Every Wednesday the children will choose a book to be read to them at home. The children are not expected to read this book to you! The library book is for you to share a story at home together. Please return library books back to school on Monday for a new one to be taken home on Wednesday.

### **How parents can help at home:**









Nursery rhymes- Singing nursery rhymes can help improve memory, concentration and thinking skills.

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.

Games- Play lots of games to help the children to learn rules, patience, taking turns and understand they can't always win! Try doing a simple jigsaw. Talk about doing the outside edge first. This will give you chance to talk about corners and sides.

Check Seesaw guides for phonics.

### **Things/Dates to remember:**

-  Your child may begin to bring home a ditty/reading book. Please make sure you write a comment in your child's reading diary when they have read at home.
-  Please send the red book bag to school every day.
-  Remember to fill in your meal choices each week for school lunches.
-  Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2.30pm-3.15pm- Chinese New Year craft session
-  Friday 7<sup>th</sup> of February is National Number day! The children can dress up and we will be asking for donations for the NSPCC.
-  Parents evening and book fair. Wednesday 29th February.
-  Send a water bottle to school every day.
-  Please make sure all clothes are clearly named so we can easily return any items that get misplaced.