



Reception Curriculum Letter



Spring 2021

What an unusual start we have had to the Spring term. We really miss seeing many of the Reception children in school and hope for a return to normal as soon as it is safe to do so. It has been lovely to be able to invite the Nursery children in, especially our new starters. We offer a warm welcome to the new children and their families.

The children in school have responded well to the unusual situation and we have been thrilled with how they have approached the activities and made the most of the learning environment.

We have been wowed by the hard work the children are managing to complete at home and thank you for the huge effort you are making to help keep your children focused and engaged. It is lovely to see them on Zoom every morning and has been great to hear their contributions as their confidence has grown.

As you will be aware, we have been following weekly topics. We aim to choose themes that are accessible for you at home, engaging for the children and relevant to their current interests.

We began with reflecting on the New Year and then moved on to the book, 'A year with Kipper,' developing the children's knowledge of the passing of time and providing a meaningful context in which to begin learning the months of the year. This led us into a timely discussion about Winter and then a week studying Polar Animals, encouraging the children to make observations and draw conclusions about why animals had specific features. Next, we looked at animals a little closer to home with our Bird Week. It was wonderful to see the photos of your chocolate nests and bird feeders. This week we are enjoying the fantastic story telling your children are sharing and look forward to a week learning about Chinese New Year before the half term break.



The Nursery children have followed the same topics, with different goals, accessing activities to help develop their social skills and gain confidence in the school environment. We are really pleased with how quickly they have settled and are already establishing an understanding of the routines. Thank you so much for your support in this, especially with the juggling of hours.



We really hope that at some point early next half term the rest of the children will be able to return to school. Please be reassured that we will, as always, work from where each individual is at, ensuring their well-being is at the centre of all we do. Encouraging a smooth transition from lockdown back into school life will be a priority. We will, of course, continue to provide opportunities to develop social and communication skills alongside phonics, numeracy and the other areas of learning.

We have always known that the best way to help your child's development is through a really close connection between teachers and parents and this lockdown has really relied on that. Thank you so much for supporting us. The time you have taken to spend with your child, working on the activities set, joining in with their play and supporting their efforts is of great value. It is wonderful to see the work you are doing via Tapestry and to celebrate your child's achievements with you.

Best wishes

The Early Years Team