



Water, Water Everywhere!

Reception Newsletter

Summer Term 2



Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome back, we hope you have had a good week and feel rested and ready to go for our final half term. It was lovely to see the children again on Wednesday morning and welcome them back to the last half term in Reception!

Last half term was full of successes. The children really enjoyed learning about minibeasts, growing, lifecycles and farming. We're very proud of their enthusiasm towards their learning and would like to say a big thank you for our successful educational visit to Hesketh Farm.

Our new topic is 'Water, Water Everywhere!' We shall begin by looking at water and where it comes from, then move to look at the ocean, animals that live under the sea and finish with the seaside before we break up for Summer. We will be reading 'Billy's Bucket' by Kes Gray and 'Tiddler' by Julia Donaldson as our core texts and use these to inspire our writing. We will also be looking at lots of non-fiction books about life under the sea to inform us about sea creatures and oceans around the world.

As this will be the last Reception newsletter for this academic year, we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support this year. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know the children and seeing them grow and develop as much as they have. We hope they have had as much fun as we have!

As we come to the end of the Reception year we will be continuing to work hard in our whole class inputs of Literacy and Maths and our small group Phonics sessions. Within these sessions children will be consolidating the skills within the Early Learning Goals.

Literacy and Maths Focus this half term:

- Continuing to learn 'special friends' and phase 3 sounds e.g. ai, ee, igh. Reading and writing words with 3 and 4 sounds e.g. shop, frog and think.
- Writing sentences with a continued focus on using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. Using connectives and descriptive language to extend our writing.
- Number recognition to twenty, addition and subtraction, sharing, doubling and halving. Recording our Maths work and problem solving. Time, money, 3D shapes, capacity and units of measure.

Warm Weather

A reminder— we are very mindful that recently the weather is extremely hot. We kindly ask that you apply sun cream to your child before bringing them to school and if your child comes with a sunhat, this needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name. Water bottles are essential at school. This is the only means for your child to have a drink in the classroom and they also take them outside during lunchtimes. The children get very thirsty in the playground.

Learning Journals

As we come to the end of the year you will be receiving an opportunity for you to view your child's paper Learning Journal. The journal details the journey your child has been on through observations and photographs since September. This is a wonderful record of your child's first year at school and will make a great keepsake for when they grow up. If you have anything you wish to add from home, please do so in the next few weeks. If your child attended our School Nursery, then you will be receiving their learning

folder to take home shortly too.

Transition to Year One

As we come to the end of the Reception year we will be helping the children to prepare for their move to Year One. We will be visiting the Year One classrooms and meeting the Year One Teachers. We will also be changing our routines and practice furthering our independent skills such as, getting our own trays and carrying our food to the table, accessing the top playground during lunchtime play and making adaptations to our timetable to help the children develop their concentration skills further. We would be grateful if you could please begin to speak to your child about their transition into Year One and the above activities.

Please continue reading often and encouraging your children to learn their Bear Words and letter sounds. This will help them, and support their progress in the next stage of their learning. All Reception children will take part in the whole school transition day on Tuesday 6th July where they will get the chance to spend the day with their new Teacher ahead of September.

If anyone would like to discuss individual transition support for their child, please speak with Miss Whytock.

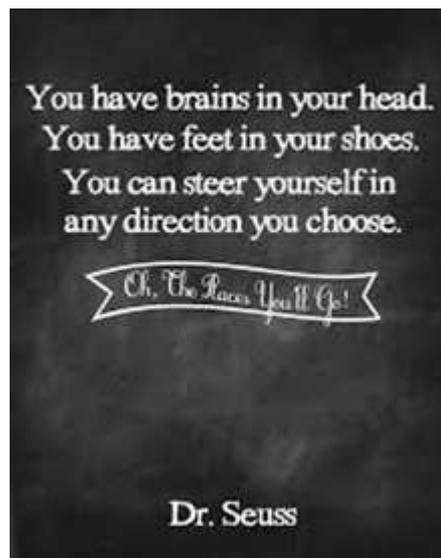
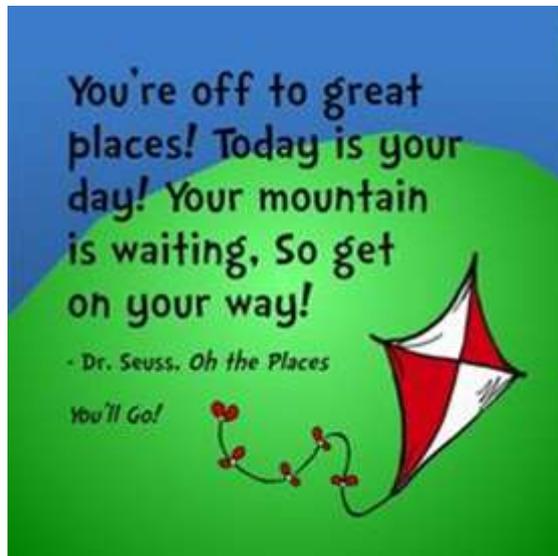
Dates for your Diary

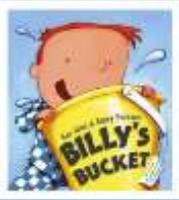
Please keep a lookout on Ping and Class Dojo as key dates and special events will be communicated to you over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.

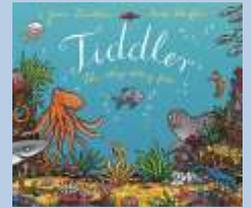
Kind regards,

Miss Whytock and the Reception Team





Water, Water



PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- We will be doing lots of carpet time activities relating to the big changes that will be taking place in September, talking about what Year 1 is like, as well as looking back over our year in Reception.
- We shall be talking about our friends, who they are and what we can do for each other.
- We shall be talking about our similarities and differences, our strengths and what we may need to work on.
- We shall be looking at the Rainbow Fish story and how our emotions and kindness can affect others.
- The children will be joining in with special events such as Sports day.

COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

- Stories – Children will have lots of stories relating to the topic with a particular focus on: Billy's Bucket and Tiddler. They will be predicting what stories might be about and the importance of oral storytelling.
- The children will be expressing themselves effectively, showing an awareness of listeners' needs.
- Children to use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.
- Singing time – Learning songs and rhymes relating to the topic – See attached song sheet.

LITERACY

- Talking about different parts of the stories that they hear, recalling and writing parts they can recall.
- The children will be having a go at writing their own stories. They use phonic knowledge and memory of bear words to read words aloud accurately.
- They will read and write labels, captions, lists and simple sentences and stories in meaningful contexts.
- The children will demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read or written.
- Phonics – children will continue to have their daily phonics sessions, focusing on reading, writing and making their own letters, sounds, words and sentences

MATHEMATICS

- Recapping on numbers to 10 and then teen numbers to 20, ordering numbers. Filling in the gaps on number lines, discussing and predicting one more and one less and missing numbers.
- We will be adding two groups of items together and use the vocabulary involved in addition, using words like add, adding, total, equals. Solving problems, using number sentences and symbols. We shall also be counting on.
- Taking items away from another group, using vocabulary like take away, subtract, total and equals. Recap on recording subtraction and writing number sentences. We shall also be counting back.
- Doubling quantities and numbers. halving groups and quantities. Sharing items into different groups.
- Recapping on shape, space and measures, 2D and 3D shapes, time and measuring and comparing amounts. **Capacity** is an important part of our water topic!

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Where does water come from? Where does it go?
- Learning about the different ways that water is used. Who or what needs water?
- Water Area: Creating an environment for the creatures that live in water.
- Floating and sinking experiments, finding out about similarities and differences of materials.
- Thinking about vehicles in water, having a go at making our own.
- Children will be using ICT to solve problems and make predictions.
- Looking at pollution of water in our

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

- Small world scenarios set up for children to develop and act out as a part of a group. E.g fish and sea creatures in the tough tray.
- Creative activities that involve using a range of different tools and equipment. A focus on water colour work, looking at the artist Monet, as well as mixing paint with water and ice painting.
- Clay and water work.
- Under the sea pictures and creatures. Investigations and choosing particular colours to use.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Lots of skills to practice this half term ready for Sports Day! We shall be looking at team games and working together as a group. We shall be outside as much as we can this final half term.

- Throwing bean bags into targets.
- Running races as part of a team.
- Bean bag balancing and races.
- Sack races.
- Javelin and discus.
- Jumping games.
- Ball skills.



Reception Songs



The Animals in the Ocean

('Wheels on the Bus' Tune)

The sharks in the ocean go chomp, chomp, chomp
Chomp, chomp, chomp,
Chomp, chomp, chomp
The sharks in the ocean go chomp, chomp, chomp
All day long!

The turtles on the ocean go snap, snap, snap,
Snap, snap, snap,
Snap, snap, snap.
The turtles in the ocean go snap, snap, snap.
All day long!

The crabs in the ocean go click, click, click,
Click, click, click,
Click, click, click,
The crabs in the ocean go click, click, click,
All day long!

The jellyfish in the ocean go wobble, wobble, wobble,
Wobble, wobble, wobble,
Wobble, wobble, wobble.
The jellyfish in the ocean go wobble, wobble, wobble,
All day long!

The clams in the ocean go open and shut
Open and shut
Open and shut
The clams in the ocean go open and shut
All day long!

The seahorse in the ocean rocks back and forth
Back and forth
Back and forth
The seahorse in the ocean rocks back and forth
All day long!

There's a hole in the bottom of the sea-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1Qn2bcZRT0>

5 little speckled frogs-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQTVrxj4l6o>

10 little fishes-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dg0cQtVisLw>

Down in the deep blue sea-

Row a Boat

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Life is but a dream.

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream.
If you see a crocodile,
Don't forget to scream.



Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream.
Throw your teacher overboard
And listen to her scream.

A Sailor Went to Sea Sea Sea

A sailor went to sea, sea, sea.
To see what he could see, see, see.
But all that he could see, see, see.
Was the bottom of the deep blue sea,
sea, sea!

Two sailors went to sea, sea, sea.
To see what they could see, see, see.
But all that they could see, see, see.
Was the bottom of the deep blue sea,
sea, sea!

Three sailors went to sea, sea, sea.
To see what they could see, see, see.
But all that they could see, see, see.
Was the bottom of the deep blue sea,
sea, sea.

Or- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xgoV6O3FC8&t=712s>



Creative Home Learning



Here are some ideas for our new Topic **Water, Water Everywhere!**

Thank you for your continued support with all of our home learning activities. The children really enjoy showing their 'Home Learning' books to the rest of the class. Don't forget to add photographs of things that you have made or created or places you have visited.

- What do you use water for at home? Write a list.
- Where does your water come from? Draw a map. Find out about the water cycle.
- Make a photo story of washing the crockery, or brushing your teeth. Can you label them or write short captions?
- Have a play around with bubbles. Can you blow a square bubble? What's the biggest bubble you can blow? What's the best mixture to use?
- Make your own healthy juices. Which was your favourite? Write the recipe.
- Find out about some of the weirdest creatures in the sea. Which is the biggest, the smallest, the strangest?
- Can you make your own aquarium or coral reef in a shoebox? Think carefully about what you put in. Can you explain why you have chosen them?
- Visit the library and find books about the sea and the creatures that live in it. Can you find both information books (non-fiction) and story books (fiction)?
- Play with different objects in the bath, or paddling pool. Which items float and which sink?
- Can you make an under the sea picture using only 2D shapes?
- Share music and stories about the sea with your families and friends. Have a look at CBeebies radio for ideas, Captain Jack has some tales:-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/search?q=the+sea>