

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our Class 1 Reception Spring Newsletter. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed cosy warm cuddles by a Christmas tree or fun days out with the family. I'm sure everyone had loads of presents and plenty of yummy foods to fill their tummies! I would like to say a huge Thank you for all the generous Christmas gifts and your kind wishes in your cards!

What an exciting term is ahead of us!

Our topic this term is **"Weather"**. Most of our indoor and outdoor learning will relate to it.

In **Literacy**, we will be focusing on "Elmer" stories as well as enjoying lots of other fun stories and rhymes about weather. The children will be learning a skill of storytelling through role play, opportunities to re-tell and change stories as well as create their own!

This term the children will develop their literacy skills by:

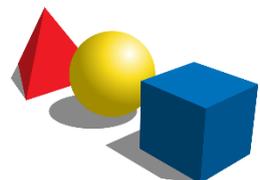
- Learning new letter sounds in phonics sessions (diagraphs - oo, ar, ur, ow, oi, er and trigraphs - igh, ear, air, ure)
- Learning to read and write tricky words in phonics sessions (he, she, we, me, be, was, my, you, they, her, all, are, like, here, said)
- Learning to read and write new high frequency words (will, that, this, then, them, with, see, for, now, down, look, too).
- Use Phonics knowledge to read and write more complex words and sentences.
- Reading and writing own full name.
- Continue making labels, writing lists and captions.
- Developing writing skills such as writing on a line, forming ALL letters correctly, consistently use finger spaces between the words, use capital letters in the beginning of the sentence and a full stop in the end.
- Reading own writing and self-correcting.



Please make sure your child brings their book and yellow Reading Record book to school **every day**. This needs to be read by your child **every day** and marked as read in the yellow record book! Each time the children read at home, they will get a sticker and eventually a prize from Class 1 prize jar!

In **Maths** this term, the children will be learning:

- Naming and describing the properties of 2D/3D shapes(straight and curved sides, corners, flat and curved faces, edges, vertices)
- Learning about calendar and time.
- Recognising and ordering numbers to 15, 20 or more.
- Adding and subtracting within 20.
- Grouping and sharing.
- Doubling and halving.
- Money.
- Measuring.



In “**Understanding the World**” the children will be learning about Day and Night, Seasons and about different weather conditions in the world. The children will be learning how to record the weather and conduct some weather experiments. We are hoping to have a visitor from a weather centre to come in to talk to the children. The children will learn to ask a variety of questions through “Show and Tell” sessions every Friday. We will be focusing on language skills of using past, present and future forms accurately.

In “**Expressive Art and Design**” the children will continue to express themselves through play, dressing up, songs, puppet theatre and junk modelling. We will explore sounds and how to change them. The children will create models and experiment with form and function.

Our **Forest School** sessions will still take place every **Thursday morning** with **Mrs Hazell** and **Mrs Maughan** whatever the weather! Please make sure **all** Forest School clothing are **clearly labelled** (including the bag) and are kept in school until the end of ½ term. Look out for our Forest school newsletter.

**PE lessons** will take place every **Monday afternoon**. The children can demonstrate their ball skills during games such as hockey, football, basketball, rugby. Please make sure your child has the correct PE items that are also **clearly labelled** in school every day until the end of ½ term.

The children will continue to receive weekly Learning Challenges on a Thursday in their “**To and fro**” book. Please encourage your child to write in the book using their phonic knowledge. It is not essential for Reception children to use the correct spellings. Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. Please use letter sounds cards provided.

It is still very useful for us to have your feedback on how your child learns outside the school. Therefore, we will continue with our “**Popcorn Moments**” to celebrate anything that your child learnt, enjoyed or tried for the very first time. Please write it on a popcorn cut-out that are available in the classroom or from a member of staff. Simply hand it to your teacher or place it on the teacher’s laptop in the morning and we will celebrate your child’s achievements in class. As soon as our popcorn hat reaches the top, the children will enjoy a special treat! Usually we have a Popcorn Party with music, games and bubbles!

Every **Friday** the children may bring a small “**Show & Tell**” item to school for a presentation to the whole class. The children thoroughly enjoy these sessions. Please send in an item on a Friday that is **linked** to the topic “Weather”.

As always, please let us know if you need further information from us or have any queries at all. This could be done through the office by telephone, e-mail, written letter or verbal message. I am happy to answer any short queries at the end of the day during collection time. Should you need to discuss a matter at length please could you make an appointment at a convenient time.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Mrs Anna Woolfson.

