

Reception Curricular Letter



Summer 2 2023 – Home Sweet Home

Welcome back everybody. I hope you all managed to have a relaxing extended break. The children have returned with enthusiasm and ready to learn. They are an amazing group of children and continue to show me every day how great they are; their behaviour is spot on, they show resilience and determination in bucket loads. Well done Acorn Class – what a start to this last half term!

This curriculum newsletter will tell you all about the units and areas of learning being covered in this half term. The children in Acorn Class will be learning the same topics but will cover the specific year group expectations for Year R, 1 and 2. Our topic is called 'Home Sweet Home' and many of our activities will relate to this.

Reading books should be sent into school each day children will be given the opportunity to change these daily. We aim to read with children several times a week and we do encourage children to read at home regularly.

Children are encouraged to bring a drinks bottle to school each day, **filled with water**. I have noticed some children have juice or flavoured water and school policy is water, in line with Change for Life initiatives.

Lunches must come in either a carrier bag that can be binned daily or a small lunch bag/box that can be cleaned easily. Please try to ensure lunches are a healthy balance of choices.

All PE kit and school uniform must be **labelled**, so if lost, they can be easily returned to you.

Thank you once again for your continued support. The relationship between school, parent and child has never been more crucial and by continuing to work together, we can ensure that every child in the whole school, will have an exciting, enjoyable and memorable half term. If you need any support, assistance or guidance please do send me a Class Dojo message.

Many thanks,
Mrs Barclay
Teacher

Days to Remember

Monday

New spellings issued
(on Seesaw)

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Tuesday

PE

Nature After School

Wednesday

Mrs Harrison teaching
am

Thursday

Year 3-6 Ukulele

Performing Arts After
School

Friday

Spelling and Times
Table test (Y3-6)

PE
Tennis After school
club

This half term our topic is 'Home sweet Home'. As with the start of all our topics, we will discuss it with the children to find out what they already know about it and what they want to find out. This will form the basis of our weekly planning so that we can try to plan from the children's interests.

TOPIC

This half term our topic is 'Home Sweet Home'. We will be investigating 'Have Houses always had windows?'. The unit will investigate a variety of different homes people live in today. We will be drawing similarities and differences between homes of today and comparing them to the homes of the Victorians. We will compare the objects found in the of the Victorians to those of today. As we understand the world around us.

We will be focusing on using communication and language skills to investigate materials in our 'Everyday Materials' unit . We will focus on materials including wood, plastic, metal, water, rock, glass, brick, paper and cardboard. Children will learn to identify and name everyday materials and will have the opportunity to explore the properties of these materials.

In Expressive Arts Acorn class have been challenged to use the marble run as inspiration to design and make a unique way of ordering their lunch. We will be problem solving using discussion and experimentation leading to using our design and making skills to manipulate a variety of materials for our final design.

The role play area this half term is a home setting; other continuous provision activities will include writing lists, Victorian clothes washing area, baking in the malleable area and how to look after our home. We will be creating artefacts by asking the question 'What makes a house a home?'

As with the start of all our topics, we will discuss it with the children to find out what they already know and what they want to find out. This will form the basis of our weekly planning so that we can try to plan from the children's interests. Please take some time to talk to your children about the topics, read books and stories, watch programmes and think of some questions they can explore in class.

MATHS

The children's mathematical development is furthered through focused activities in small groups with an adult and through play. During the term, we will continue to build on children's knowledge of numbers up to 10. We are continuing to use White Rose Maths to support our maths lessons. We will begin the term with a unit called 'Find my pattern'. We will then move on to 'On the move'.

How can you help at home?

- Help your child to recognise and order the numbers 0 to 10 and spot numbers when you are out and about.
- Whilst playing games at home, or at any appropriate opportunity, encourage your child to count in a stable order, with 1:1 correspondence (touch the object as they count for accuracy).
- Practise recognising and forming numerals
- Roll a dice, use a number generator or pick a number card out of a pot, can you say the number that is one more? Can you say the number that is one less?

LITERACY

All Literacy work is closely linked to the Home sweet Home theme. In English, we will begin with the Children will listen to perform and investigate a variety of songs and rhymes Recognising repetition. They will innovate and perform their own poem.

We will then be investigating 'Whose house is my story set in?' Looking at stories in a familiar setting before finding out exactly what adventures Six dinner Sid got up to before they innovate and retell their story. The children will be retelling the story and writing their own version. Children will be encouraged to speak in a variety of situations (role play, hot seating, and circle time) and we will develop their confidence when speaking to an audience. We will also be discussing stories during whole class, guided groups and individual reading sessions. With their talk partners, the children will be encouraged to ask and answer questions how and why questions.

As we progress through the Red Rose phonics scheme, the sounds your child has been focusing on that week are sent home in their book bags. It is important to practise these sounds with your child as well as the tricky words. We are encouraging the children to form letters correctly, i.e. starting and finishing in the correct place. As always, we will provide the children with lots of opportunities for independent reading and writing inside and outside the classroom. Pupils will be encouraged to correctly use capital letters and full stops.

How you can help at home?

- When reading with your child at home, ask 'how' and 'why' questions to prompt discussion.
- Explain the meaning of new words your child comes across to help extend their vocabulary.
- Talk to your child about the phonemes and 'tricky' words that we have been learning at school.
- Read with your child at home on a regular basis, modelling how to sound out individual phonemes and blend them together.
- When writing independently, encourage your child to use their knowledge of phonics to make their own attempts at spelling whilst using a correct pencil grip.

Early writing activities:

- Drawing letter shapes in the air to music
- Copying over letter shapes
- Drawing letters in sand or shaving foam spread thinly on a table.
- Write with chalk, crayons, finger paints, pencils, pens etc.
- Recognition of letters through touch (stick letters, magnetic letters, fuzzy felt, sand paper letters).
- Drawing or writing with chalks on the ground or pavement
- Water painting on outdoor walls with paintbrush.

Phonic Books: These books give your child the opportunity to practice the sounds and skills they have been taught in phonics, so they are a really important and should be prioritised out the two. **These are books that the children should read independently to someone at home.**

Home Readers: These books are not decodable and do not match where the children are in phonics. Therefore, this is a book which an adult should read to the child for enjoyment and pleasure. **We strongly advise you to read these books with your child,** maybe discussing a page at a time or reading to each other. These books provide a great opportunity to develop comprehension skills and develop vocabulary

If you're struggling to find time to read both (Phonics and Home Reader), we would prefer you to read the phonics books first.

Bug Club <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0> Don't forget, you can access online phonics e-books for your child to read at home at the weekends on Bug Club. The books have been selected for your child, according to the level they are reading

As with all our work in Reception, the topics involve a strong emphasis on practical activities to develop children's learning. Thank you for your support so far and if at any time throughout the year you may have questions or thoughts on your child's work or well-being, please feel free to catch me after school or send me a message via Class Dojo.

Many thanks,

Mrs Barclay

Teacher