



Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year: Reception

Spring 1st Half Term: Jan'19

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you have all had an enjoyable and memorable Christmas holiday. Mrs Reid and I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the lovely Christmas gifts we received; we were touched by your generosity.

The children have now settled back into school and are very enthusiastic about the work we are doing. Much of their learning will stem from our topic on 'Teddy Bears' although we will still continue to plan activities that reflect other interests that the children have. There will be three key texts that we will be looking at over the next half term, they are: 'Whatever Next' and 'Peace at Last' by Jill Murphy and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

In the table below I have outlined some of the learning experiences that the children will be having in each area of the curriculum. I have also suggested ways in which you can help your child at home.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning to dress and undress independently e.g. for PE • Concentrating on tasks for longer periods of time • Exploring the feelings of characters in stories • Developing a respect for different cultures by finding out about the food that people around the world have for breakfast. • Discussing the importance of sharing toys and equipment
<i>Activities at Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Encourage your child to dress themselves for school in the morning.</i>
Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telling a friend about their teddy bear • Asking questions about their friend's cuddly toys • Using props to retell familiar stories • Retelling and acting out the stories and sequencing pictures
<i>Activities at Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ask your child questions about books you have read together</i>
Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring ways in which we can travel along apparatus • Jumping safely from benches • Practising ball skills, throwing, catching, rolling, bouncing • Manipulating a range of malleable materials to create different effects.
<i>Activities at Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Using playground equipment in the park- particularly climbing frames as they help build upper body strength</i> • <i>Encouraging your child to undertake activities that involve fine motor movements such as drawing and painting</i>
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revising all Phase Two and Phase Three phonemes • Reading common words on sight • Writing a growing number of letters using the correct formation • Using their knowledge of sounds to decode CVC words e.g. c-a-t • Using their phonic knowledge to spell and write a range of words and sentences
<i>Activities at Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Involve them with simple writing activities, for example they could pretend to write thank you cards or a shopping list.</i>



Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using vocabulary such as longer, shorter, bigger and smaller to compare the size of different objects Making small, big and middle sized furniture for the three bears Practising number formation. Carrying out simple addition by adding two groups together Carrying out simple subtraction by taking objects away
Activities at Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Asking your child questions that involve using basic counting and calculation skills. E.g. 'How many plates are on the table?' 'I have four apples. If Mummy eats one how many will be left?'</i>
Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring how porridge oats change when milk is added to them and when they are heated in a microwave. Observing how bread changes when it is put in the toaster Making sandwiches for a picnic Comparing old teddy bears and new teddy bears Making observations about the season of winter Making space rockets Constructing furniture for the Three Bears
Activities at Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Show children any old cuddly toys that you have at home</i> <i>Talk about the way in which food changes as you cook it</i>
Expressive Art and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using clay to make bowls for the three bears Using body percussion, voices and instruments to create sound effects for the story 'Peace at Last' Exploring how sounds can be changed e.g. making them quieter or louder Talking about pictures and models they have created
Activities at Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Encourage your child to tell you about models and pictures they have made</i>

Reading

The children need to continue to spend at least ten minutes every day engaging in a reading activity. This can consist of having books read to them as well as looking at their school reading book.

Reading books will be changed on a weekly basis. However, it is essential that your child's reading book is in their bag every day.

Drinks

The children have been entitled to a carton of free milk each day under the 'Cool Milk' scheme, until they reach their 5th birthday. Our quota decreases each month. Please make sure your child brings a filled water bottle to school every day. Please do not carry water bottles in book bags. They have a tendency to leak over reading books.

Clothes

School uniforms and PE kits continue to be unnamed. Please make sure **ALL** items are named. Thank you.

Tissues

We get through many boxes of tissues each term. Please provide 1 box of tissues for the spring term.

As always if you have any questions about these or any other matters please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Reid or myself. We would appreciate it if you could try and speak to us at the end of the day rather than the beginning as the mornings are usually very busy.

Kathy Lawrence (Reception Teacher)