

## Early Years Topic Letter – Summer 2



Welcome back and I hope you have all had a wonderful half term holiday. I cannot believe we are in the last half term of this school year, it has gone so quickly and I am so proud of all the children.

### **Gentle reminders:**

Please continue to support us as we work hard to keep your children safe. Please remember only **one adult** should be dropping off or picking your child up from school to reduce numbers on our school site. We really appreciate your support. Especially now we have changed our timings to allow all children to be dropped off and picked up at the same times – 8.45am and 3.15pm.

Please remember a WATERPROOF COAT at all times, we go out in all weathers! As the weather changes and is hopefully getting warmer please ensure your child has a sun hat and sun cream all clearly labelled. Sun cream should be applied on a morning before school as we are unable to apply, if your child brings sun cream into school to reapply this will have to be done by them. If it is a very hot day we always ensure to not be out for too long during the hottest part of the day and ask children to spend more time in the shade, named water bottles are also essential please.

Please make sure every item of clothing is clearly marked with your child's name. There have been lots of items of uniform go missing this half term or end up going home with someone else. I am still picking up cardigans, jumpers and hoodies on a daily basis with no name in... making it impossible to reunite them!

Please remember to log onto your child's tapestry account regularly, this will help you to see what your child's next steps are and will help you to support your child's learning. Further to this, it is a lovely way to see what we have been up to

and talk about school with your children. Don't forget to upload achievements and experiences at home, including when you hear your child read.

Reception children will continue to be challenged in school with our rainbow challenge tasks, these are weekly and certificates will be awarded via tapestry. Please remember to login to your School Jam account to see what is new each week, new tasks and activities are set for your child to have a go on and these link to learning done in school.

## Personal, Social and Emotional

### Development

We will continue to reinforce positive behaviour at all times in EYFS. Supporting the children to develop their personal, social and emotional development is at the core of what we do in every way.

This half term we will place particular emphasis on:

*Planning to achieve an outcome as a group,  
listen to each other's ideas, understand  
uniqueness and differences, understand bullying.*

## Physical Development

This half term we will be continuing to develop our independence! We will be working on putting our own shoes or wellies on, going to the toilet, identifying when we need our nappy changes, putting our coat on, peeling our fruit and putting our straw in our milk! You can help at home by supporting your child to get dressed by themselves and have a go at putting their coat on before you help them. You can also support them to wash their hands; this is something we have been working on lots at school!

We will also be working hard to develop our fine motor and gross motor skills. We will be continuing with dough disco and 'squiggle while you wiggle' sessions.

We will continue to promote gross motor activities like climbing, jumping, running, throwing and catching through physical activities and when using our climbing frame and the cars and bikes.



We will also be preparing for Sports Day activities, which will be great fun!

We will be taking part in lots of fine motor activities which will help to develop the strength in our fingers, and support us to hold a pencil effectively. These will include things like pinching, threading, using pegs, twisting, brushing, stacking and using tweezers.

We will be developing our pencil control and Reception will be focussing on accurate letter formation, as well as writing sentences and labelling pictures. In Nursery we will continue working hard to write our names!



## RE

*This half term Reception will continue to take part in RE sessions and our main focus this term will continue to be Judaism and lifestyles, we will also look at festivals and celebrations.*

We will be learning:

*To know that Judaism is worshipped in a Synagogue.*

*To know that many people have different lifestyles.*

*To know that Jewish children celebrate Hannukah as a special time.*

## Communication and Language

We develop the children's listening and attention, understanding and speaking skills all of the time and often based on your child's next steps as the children often have specific areas to work on.

This half term we will be focusing on:

Learning the 'We're going on a bear hunt' story off by heart through our Talk4Writing approach and learn new vocabulary in relation to the story and characters.

Using more complex sentences to link our ideas and thoughts.

## Reception Literacy

This half term in Reception we will continue to focus on recapping all RWInc set 1 and 2 sounds through short and snappy ‘speed sounds’ sessions each morning, designed to teach the children to recognise and pronounce the pure sounds, this helps children to blend to read and segment to spell and write.

We will also continue to introduce new red words this half term as they appear in our reading books. We have already learnt lots of tricky red words and we will be recapping these words and supporting the children to apply these in their own writing within the provision and through our taught lessons. We will be developing our writing skills this half term so that the children can write for various purposes such as recounts, descriptions, instructions and story writing. It still remains very important that as the children pick up the Read, Write, Inc. sounds that they practise forming these accurately, starting in the correct place.

We will be developing our ‘Talk 4 Writing’ skills this half term by linking lots of what we do to our focus text ‘We’re Going On A Bear Hunt’. We will be learning to retell this story by creating story maps, learning actions and taking part in lots of fun activities relating to the text.

We will be continuing to write for a purpose - writing shopping lists, letters to our friends and much more. You can continue to support your child at home by helping them with their oral blending and segmenting. Play games such as saying a word by sounding it out f-i-r-s-t – can they say the word? Practise reading daily and share lots of stories! Don’t forget to practise your RWinc green and red word cards along with their RWI sound cards. You can support your child to write by being very positive if they have a go and by modelling writing for lots of different purposes.

**Key vocabulary:** fiction, non-fiction, sentences, captions, finger spaces, full stops, capital letters, rhyme.

## Nursery Literacy

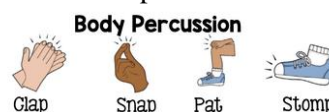
This half term in Nursery we will be continuing to focus on learning and retelling familiar and new Nursery rhymes. We will be sharing our focus text of ‘We’re Going On A Bear Hunt’ as we take part in many activities linked to the story and we will learn to retell the story and put actions to it.

We will continue working on having a go at writing our names and developing our mark making skills.

This half term we will be continuing to place our emphasis on creating confident mark maker’s, allowing the children to explore the different marks they make using a variety of tools including chalk, pens, pencils, crayons, water and in sensory trays. We will continue to use our new programme ‘Squiggle While you Wiggle’ to help us to develop our early writing skills in an energetic and fun way.

We will also be promoting drawing and supporting the children to talk about what they have drawn and the marks they have made.

We will continue to take part in short daily phase one phonics sessions which will help us to develop our sound discrimination and listening skills. This half term we will be focussing on body percussion and rhythm and rhyme. We will continue to recap set 1 sounds of RWI (these will be short sessions and when the children join in Reception in September we will start from the beginning again, so this is just an introduction).



**Key vocabulary:** fiction, non-fiction, rhyme.

## Nursery Maths

Maths happens all day in Early Years, during the register, at snack time and while the children play. Before the day has even started we have counted and added up how many children we have at school and recorded this using numicon and on tens frames.

This half term we will focus on:

*Developing 1 to 1 counting strategies, counting objects in irregular arrangements, use the*

## Reception Maths

Maths happens all day in Early Years. Each morning at register time, we will count how many children we have, add them up and record this using numicon and number sentences before our day has even started! Maths is covered in all areas of the provision but we also take part in short directed Maths activity each day. The children can then apply the skills they have used in the provision. This half term we will focus on:

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| <p><i>language of more and fewer to compare groups, continue to compare and order numbers to 5 and beyond.</i></p> <p><i>Begin to deepen understanding of uses of number.</i></p> <p><b>Key vocabulary:</b> how many? More, less, bigger, smaller, number.</p>   | <p><i>First, then, now</i></p> <p><i>Doubling, halving, odds and evens.</i></p> <p>A big focus this half term will also be to continue to consolidate all we have learned so far to continue our strong deeper understanding of number and shape.<br/> <b>Key vocabulary:</b> addition, plus, add, subtraction, take away, subtract, equals, total, more, less, triangle, circle, square, rectangle, cube, sphere, cuboid, cone, cylinder.</p>  |
| <p><b><u>Expressive, Art and Design</u></b></p> <p>This term the children will have the opportunity to:</p> <p><i>Talk about ideas and processes involved in making things.</i></p> <p><i>Independent junk modelling.</i></p> <p><i>Promote independent choice of resources.</i></p> <p><i>Acting, singing and dancing.</i></p> <p><i>Using instruments to represent different things like weather, places and feelings.</i></p> | <p><b><u>Understanding the World</u></b></p> <p>This term we will be:</p> <p><i>Exploring different environments and make detailed observations.</i></p> <p><i>Learning about weather and continue to explore how it impacts on environments.</i></p> <p><i>Further developing our understanding of different countries and habitats. Make up our own stories like 'We're going on a polar bear hunt...'</i></p> <p><i>Thinking about how people maintain our community - recycling, litter picking etc and the impact humans have on the environment - recycling/litter/pollution.</i></p> <p><i>Using Laptops with support to use simple programmes and make type lists.</i></p> <p><i>Exploring the life cycle of a butterfly and look after our very own butterflies.</i></p> <p><b>Key vocabulary:</b> habitats, plants, animals, growing, native, country, recycling, litter, pollution, rain, sun, snow, ice, frost, fog, life cycle, Caterpillar, Chrysalis, cocoon, butterfly.</p> |

