

Reception News

07.11.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, children and parents!

We hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing half term. We're so excited to begin another half term filled with fun and engaging learning!

Our new topic is "To Infinity and Beyond!" — a journey into space and our amazing planet. As a class, we started by sharing what we already know about space and what we'd love to discover. The children came up with some fantastic questions, and we can't wait to explore the answers together! Some children even challenged themselves to write down their questions — such curiosity and enthusiasm! To launch our topic, we began by learning about the job of an astronaut. We discovered some fascinating facts — did you know that every astronaut must also be a trained scuba diver? We've also been practising the names of the planets in our solar system and learning a helpful mnemonic to remember them all. Can your child recall all the planet names? We've also continued our much-loved Helicopter Stories sessions. It's been wonderful to see the children's creativity, storytelling skills, and confidence grow with each session. Their imaginative ideas never fail to impress us!

This week, the children have continued to engage with activities that underline the purpose of counting – to find out 'how many' objects there are altogether. They have reinforced their understanding of cardinality – that the last number in the count tells us 'how many' things there are altogether in a set of objects – and they will further practise their 1:1 correspondence skill, by counting numbers at the same time as moving or tagging objects.

Another key focus this week has been deepening their understanding of 5 as a quantity by linking the number itself to the 5 fingers on one hand. The children will also begin to explore ways to represent numbers to 5 using both their fingers and the Hungarian number pattern. These key representations will help to underline the 'fiveness' of 5 and provide structures that will support later exploration of its composition and its relationships with other numbers.

Weekly Phonics

Sounds of the week:

ff ll ss j

Tricky word of the week:

put, full, pull, as

This week we have looked at a lot of digraphs. The children have been brilliant learning the new vocabulary of grapheme (how we write the sound) and digraph (two letters that make one sound). We have learnt that we use a digraph when the sound is at the end of the word e.g., hill, puff, hiss and the grapheme when at the start of the word e.g., sip, let, flip.

Home Learning

This week the children have brought home their first reading book. This is in addition to their library books which they renew every Monday. Please dedicate some time each day to listen to your child read their book. This is to help the children build their fluency in their reading. If the children are not yet secure with their blending, then they will be bringing home a wordless book. It is still important that these are shared to help encourage the children to talk about what they can see happening in the book. Within all the reading sessions the children will be practising oral blending to help support them develop this vital skill. If you look at the back of the book there is a page with suggestions on discussion points.

Please ensure that you record all your reading in your child's planner. Each time the children have reading recorded in their planners they receive a raffle ticket. Every Friday a raffle ticket will be pulled out during the celebration assembly and the winners get to attend a book club with Mrs Sharma at the end of the term.

Books will be collected in on Thursday's and we will not issue a new one until we have received it. If a book is lost or damaged we will have to request you purchase a new one.

Thank you!

Oral Health

The Government have asked that Early Years settings support parents with their child's oral health. Each fortnight we will share facts and tips on how you can support your child looking after their teeth.



Look Listen and Note:

Can the children identify a circle and/or a triangle?

Can the children describe the properties of the shapes?

Can the children say what our new topic is that we are learning about?

Can the children talk about what you would like to learn?

Can the children tell you about the job of an astronaut?

Can the children tell you anything about Neil Armstrong?

Can the children talk about why an astronaut must wear a space suit when leaving the Space Station?

Can the children play together as a group?

Do the children have a dominant hand?

Can the children hold a pencil with the correct grip?

Can the children hear and write the sounds in the words?

Can the children recall what a question is?

Can the children recognise a question mark?

Can the children name any of the planets in the Solar System?

Can the children say what shape the planets are?

Can the children recall any facts about the planets?

Can the children verbally tell a story?

Can the children take turns to act out a story?

Thank you for all your support this week. We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Harrison