

Reception Newsletter

- Welcome to Reception! We have a busy and exciting year ahead!
- Staff working in Reception this year: Alice will be teaching Peach Class with Georgia and Leah. Steph and Leila will be teaching Pear Class with Laura. In our EYFS department at Dashwood staff are known by their first names.
- You will receive a class newsletter every term. This will be available on the school [website under 'Letters to Parents'](#). If you would prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please let the office know. We also have our own class pages on the website. Please check these pages regularly as we will upload the story texts we will be learning and photos of what we have achieved.
- [We will be doing P.E and Forest weekly.](#) These days will be given to you at your home visit. We suggest leaving pupil PE kits in school all term so they always have a spare set of clothes or their kit for any extra sporting events that may take place.
- During our Forest School sessions, Children will need to bring wellies and old, warm clothes in a named bag on this day to change into. They tend to get quite muddy on these afternoons!
- As part of the school uniform, the children are required to only wear black shoes and also ideally need a book bag to be brought into school daily.

Topic:

Once Upon A Time...

Our topic this term is traditional tales and the stories this we will be learning are The Little Red Hen and The Three Little Pigs. The children will also be learning some traditional nursery rhymes.

To kick start our topic this term, on we will taste different types of bread as part of our WOW activity. (Please make sure you have declared any food allergy your child may have on the school admission form and home visit.)

Our focus questions this term:

Week 1 - What can you tell others about yourself?

Week 2 - Have you come across any new words today that you haven't heard before?

Week 3 - How have you felt today? How do you think others have felt today?

Week 4 - Why is it important to make the right choices?

Week 5 - What could you use to retell a familiar story?

Week 6 - What material is this made from and why might material have been used for this material?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During this first term, the children will be spending time getting to know each other and the staff. They will be learning our class rules for inside and outside and how to share resources with others. In the Foundation Stage, we focus on positive behaviour and regulating our emotions through our Zones of Regulation. This helps children to express, understand and talk about their emotions; e.g. How are you feeling? Why do you feel this way? What happened to make you feel this way? How can you resolve this?. The children also have a class reward where they work together as a team to earn a reward at the end of each term.



Maths



In the first week we will be looking at days of the week and daily routines, for example, what you do first, next, after that etc. We will also be focusing on numbers to 10, recognising numbers and looking at the composition of numbers. We will be introducing the concept of subitising (instantly recognising an amount without counting) and practising this with amounts up to 5. Furthermore, we will also be using language to compare two groups for example, which has more/fewer. We will be having fun exploring patterns, creating our own patterns and spotting errors in repeating patterns.

HOME ACTIVITY

Practise counting aloud to 10. You can use this website to encourage your child to practise their number skills <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots>

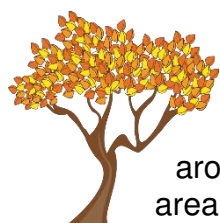
Expressive Arts and Design

Over the coming weeks, we will be exploring different types of materials which will be linked to one of our class stories this term 'The Three Little Pigs'. Children will become architects and builders to design, then make and test a house to withstand all weathers for the Three Little Pigs. Children will also have daily access to our art area with a range of tools to practise a variety of craft and art techniques such as mixing different shades of colour.



Physical Development

We will be working hard during this first term to teach the children to form individual letters correctly whilst holding their pencil effectively using a tripod grip. To support this, we will be completing activities to develop our fine motor skills and strengthen the muscles in our fingers. In preparation for our P.E lessons, please can you encourage your child to practise getting dressed independently at home into and out of their uniform and PE kit.



Understanding the World

During Term 1, we will be exploring and making observations of the animal characters in our stories, looking at their features and draw pictures of them. We will also be looking at the processes and changes that are going on in the natural world around us during autumn. We will also be looking the buildings around us in our local area and which are of importance to the local community and why.

Communication and Language, Reading and Writing

Communication is vital for children's development so we will be encouraging as much conversation throughout the day as possible. We will be using new words with the children to expand their vocabulary and encouraging them to extend their sentences by modelling from adults. During phonics sessions we will be focusing on practising our 'Fred talk' where we learn to orally segment and blend sounds in words such as c-a-t is cat. When the children are ready then we will go onto learning a new sound everyday. The children will also receive a sound book later in the term to bring home and complete each week to practise the new sounds we have been learning at home.

HOME ACTIVITY

You can use this website to encourage your child to practise their 'Fred talking' and blending skills. <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html> or please use this website to share different traditional tale stories with your child <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/storyteller-videos>. We would also encourage you to read a story to your child at least once a day as this has a huge impact on their learning.



REMINDERS AND DATES

Friday 1st September - Inset Day

Monday 4th September – Inset Day

Tuesday 5th September - Term 1 begins for years 1-6. Home visits for Reception pupils.

Friday 29th September – Cultural Day

Monday 11th September - Reception Term 1 begins

Friday 20th October – Last Day of Term 1

Monday 30th October - Term 2 Begins