

# Reception Spring 2015 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

Well done everyone, we've made it through the first term! The children have settled really well and are making good progress. Don't forget we are always happy to meet with you to talk through concerns and answer questions.

From September 2012 the new Early Years framework came into effect. You will be able to find lots of information about this on the 'Foundation Years' web page: [www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk). There is also a very useful 'Parents Area'.

Our Topic for this term is '**Change It!**'

## **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

This term we will be focusing on developing confidence and self-esteem, as well as building an awareness of the needs and feelings of others.

We will be continuing our weekly trips to the park. During their time at the park activities will be carried out to enrich children's understanding of their local area and environment. Many children enjoy being outdoors and develop in self-esteem and confidence during these times.

## **Communication and Language**

We will continue to encourage the children to communicate with each other, talk about their interests and what's important to them. We will also be working on extending vocabulary. The children will be exploring different words linked to a theme e.g. big, large, huge, enormous, etc.

## **Literacy**

Children will be introduced to a variety of stories including traditional tales. We will be developing their ability to re-tell stories and recognise how stories begin and end. They will also learn how to describe characters.

We will continue to carry out phonics work to enable the children to link sounds to letters. This helps them to spell and read simple words. We work from the Letters and Sounds publication. Interactive games which support learning can be found at: [www.letters-and-sounds.com](http://www.letters-and-sounds.com). We have just finished working at Phase 2 and will begin to work on Phase 3.

## **Mathematics**

This term we will be looking at shape, pattern, measurement, number recognition, ordering, money and solving simple problems. We will also be developing mathematical language e.g. more, less, smaller, larger and naming shapes.

### **Understanding the World**

Our topic is 'Change' so we will be looking at how the children have changed since they were babies and how animals and plants change as they grow. We will also be exploring how things change if you add water, freeze or cook them.

The children will continue to have access to the interactive white boards. They will learn a variety of skills as well as using relevant software to support their learning.

### **Physical Development**

In PE we will be developing basic skills through the use of equipment, bats and balls. We will also be learning how to move safely, jump, roll and sequence movements.

### **Expressive Art and Design**

The children will continue to explore different materials such as clay, dough, paint, glue, paper and card. They will be producing a variety of collages, models and paintings. We will listen to music from a range of artists including those from other countries. The children will learn new songs and continue to enjoy familiar ones.

### **A few reminders:**

1. Don't forget you also have access to the Woodcroft Learning Platform '**The Tree House**', where you will find lots of supportive texts and web-links.
2. The children should be in correct uniform now. Please name all your child's belongings. Sweat shirts can be purchased from the school office. Children need navy shorts, white T shirt and trainers for PE; these should be kept in a PE bag.
3. Please ensure that your child has a book bag in order to take a reading book home. Book bags are sent home regularly throughout the week.
4. We will be continuing to send home Brainbuilder activities. We are very impressed with the quality of work being produced. Well done and keep it up! Please take care of your Brainbuilder book and only use it for homework.
5. As the weather gets colder please ensure that your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves and a scarf **especially on Tuesdays when we spend part of the morning in the park.**

### **Woodcroft Reception Team**

Mrs Powell, Mrs Brown, Miss Cam, Mrs Baker, Miss Finnegan, Mrs Masters, Mrs Jadav, Mrs S.S. and Mrs Smith.