

# Reception Newsletter

## Spring Term 1



### Dear Parents / Carers:

Welcome back and from everybody in the Reception team we wish you a Happy New Year. We hope you have had an enjoyable and restful break and we are looking forward to an exciting and busy term ahead.

Last half term we have been lucky enough to have a wealth of visitors coming to our classrooms to talk about their jobs. A big thank you to the parents who visited us and shared their experiences and expertise about their roles. We hope to continue and see more parents joining us and contributing to the children's learning journeys through their time in Reception.

The whole school theme for this half term is 'Imagination and Make Believe' and our topic for this half term is 'What is magic?' As part of this topic, we will be looking at stories that include witches, wizards and superheroes. The children will be completing lots of superhero missions. They will also have the opportunity to immerse themselves into the amazing, magical world of potions.

As our lost property box is overflowing with un-named school uniform, coats, hats, gloves and even shoes, we continue to encourage parents to label all of your children's clothing with their full name and their class name. This helps us to return any lost items back to you, if found.

### Home Learning:

The children will continue to take home a story book which will be changed each week. Please spend a few minutes each day sharing the story with your child and make a comment in their reading record. Each week the children will also continue to bring home a library book. Please be aware that your child may choose the same book more than once. Re-reading familiar books is very helpful at this early stage of reading development.

Phonics: Orally practising the sounds and beginning to sound out and blend words together. Please encourage your child to practise forming their letters correctly.

The children will continue to receive a sticker that has a home learning challenge on it every Friday.

### The Reception Team

#### Egypt:

Mrs Ruta Plauskaite  
Mrs Saira Sikdaka

#### Cameroon:

Miss Bryony Henson  
Mrs Sandhya Regmi

#### Morocco:

Mrs Karolina Zielinska  
Mrs Sukhjit Dhadwar

#### Tanzania:

Mrs Sadia Shah  
Miss Aaliyah Chaudhry

### Classroom Practitioner:

Ms Sharon Cook

### Year Group Leader:

Mrs Ruta Plauskaite

### Lead Learner:

Ms Barbara Willson

### Deputy Head Teacher:

Mrs Marie Hardie

**If you have any questions or concerns, you are very welcome to speak to us at the beginning or end of the school day.**

## Dates for this term's educational visits

We plan to start this year with two visits involving braving the wintry weather and enjoying outdoor activities.

We will be visiting the Bonny Downs Community Association, where we will learn about why we have seasons and what impact they have on the natural world. Children will have the opportunity to explore their winter garden.

We would also like to take an inspiring walk in our local park on a frosty morning exploring the frosty trees, admiring the misty views and listening to our crunchy footsteps.



## Library Days

**Cameroon & Egypt – Thursday**  
**Morocco & Tanzania – Wednesday**

Each child is allowed to borrow one book during their session. These books need to be returned on library day so they can be exchanged for new ones.

## PE Day - Tuesday

Please ensure that your child comes to school in their school uniform on PE days and that they bring their PE kit in a bag. The children need to practise getting themselves dressed and undressed independently. Remember to label all pieces of clothing with your child's name and class.



## Curriculum

**This term's topics:** What is magic?

**Literacy** – The children will be practising their reading and writing skills inspired by a range of books based on magical worlds and also make up their own imaginative stories about their own fictional superhero.

**Maths** – We will continue to deepen our understanding of number. The main focus will be on place value, addition and subtraction.

**C&L** – Developing our speaking and listening skills and we will be encouraging the children to develop their questioning skills.

**PSED** – We will be talking about how we can try and find solutions to problems that we may have when playing and learning with others, we will talk about finding ways to ensure that everyone is being treated fairly and will start thinking about how it makes others feel when they are treated unfairly or in a mean manner. We will also be setting our goals and dreams for the new year.

**PD** – We will be continuing to develop our gross motor skills and learn to write letters correctly and independently. We will be focusing on developing gross motor skills through PE and discussing what contributes to a healthy diet.

**EAD** – The children will be using role play to act out different scenarios from familiar stories. They will be creating masks and puppets to use as props when retelling a story.

**UW** – We will be discussing changes in the seasons and what this looks and feels like, and we will be using a variety of technology to record our learning. We will also be exploring the festival of Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday.