

# Reception Newsletter

## Spring Term 2



### Dear Parents / Carers:

Welcome back everyone to the second half of the spring term; we hope you have had a restful break. It is hard to believe we are half way through the academic year already! The children have been working hard to develop their skills in order to get them ready for Year 1.

This half term the children will be learning about Mother Nature asking 'What do plants, animals and humans need to grow?' They will observe the changes that occur in the natural world and talk about why they occur. The children will look at the similarities and differences of living things and make observations, compare and contrast their characteristics and discuss their habitats.

This half term we will also be focusing lots of our work around plants and growing. There will be opportunities for the children to plant a variety of different plants, flowers and vegetables and then we will be monitoring the progress as they grow. We will be looking at stories about growing and we will be learning 'The Little Red Hen' story by heart using actions to help us remember the words.

We are pleased to see so many parents coming into school early on a Friday to share books with their children. The sessions are taking place in your child's class between 8:40am – 8:55am every Friday.

### 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.

Phonics: Orally practising the Set 1 and Set 2 sounds and beginning to sound out and blend words together. Some children will be taking home a RWI book. These are changed in RWI lessons every 4 or 5 sessions - depending on the group they are in. Please encourage your child to read their RWI book at home.

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 visit

To support the understanding of the food journey, healthy eating and why looking after our health is so important, the children in Reception will be taking part in 'Foraging Cooking' workshops. They will be using their senses to explore garden herbs, then become chefs, following a recipe to bake bread rolls, measuring ingredients and using the herbs they have collected. They will then use their observation skills, watching the bread rolls grow and bake in the oven.



## 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 topic:** This half term the children's topic question will be 'What do plants, animals and humans need to grow?'

**Literacy** – Learning about facts and information. The children will be writing captions, labels, and sentences. They will also be focusing on learning to read and write red words. They will be using their phonic knowledge to read more complex regular words and sentences independently.

**Maths** – Estimation, doubling, halving and 3D shapes. We will also focus on mathematical vocabulary.

**C&L** – The children will be using their speaking and listening skills to talk about their own experiences and the activities they have participated in. They will be using words such as: first, last, next, before, after, all, most, some, each and every in their narratives.

**PSED** – Developing sharing and caring skills, the children will be learning to negotiate turn taking and dealing with minor disagreements. They will also be thinking about what they are good at and what they still find difficult. They will learn about looking after plants and animals.

**PD** – We will be continuing to develop our gross motor skills and learning to write letters correctly and independently. We will be focusing on throwing and catching in the outdoor area.

**EAD** – The children will be participating in drama activities related to the stories read. During art activities, the children will be using their observational skills to paint and create patterns in nature.

**UW** – Exploration of the world, such as learning about a variety of habitats and the animals which live there. The children will also be participating in exploring planting, growing and caring for plants.