Barnes Farm Infant School

Reception Spring 1 – Guide for Parent/Carers

Dear Parents/Carers,

The three Reception classes had a wonderful Autumn term at school. The children have continued to impress us all with their outstanding manners and the kindness they show towards one another. We have enjoyed our first Forest School sessions with Terry Toad and explored the natural world around us. We have also learnt about Diwali and Christmas as part of our Understanding the World area of learning. This has allowed our children to recognise that the people in our community have different beliefs and that they celebrate special times in different ways. We have been on an adventure with Jack, drew maps to help him find his way home and taught him about caring for others in his story.
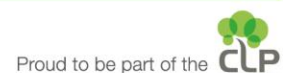
This newsletter is to inform you of our learning in Reception during the first half of the Spring term. We will also give you some ideas of how you can continue to support your child at home.

Reading at Home

Reading and sharing books at home is vitally important to support your child in their reading journey. It is a school expectation that children read at home to an adult at least 4 times a week. Your child brings home a new Big Cat reading book every Friday which is matched to their phonic and sound knowledge. Please remember to share this book with your child every night. It is important to re-read these book multiple times to build fluency and support with comprehension. When you have read or shared a book with your child at home, record this in their reading record so that they can move up in our reading game and earn reading certificates. We count children's home reads weekly and celebrate their achievements in class. If you need any support with reading at home, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Tapestry

Tapestry is a tool used by the school to share your child's learning both at school and at home. We regularly upload photos of your child's learning and achievements at school for you to see. You are more than welcome to also share any learning or achievements that happen at home and these will be liked or commented on by your child's class teacher. It is important to regularly check your child's Tapestry account as

we will sometimes upload important messages. We will soon be uploading some home learning tasks for you to complete together.

Physical and Independence Skills

As part of the Reception Curriculum children are encouraged to develop their independent self-help skills. As part of this, children are becoming more independent when changing for PE and putting on coats and jumpers. Please encourage and work on these self-help skills at home as it is an important part of your child's development. In the Spring, we will be learning more about gymnastics and sequencing movements. We will also be learning about how we can keep ourselves safe at home and at school as part of our SCARF learning.

Phonics

In the Spring we will be learning Phase 3 phonic sounds. These are now more complex and involve learning diagraphs like; sh, ch, th, ng, qu. We will continue to apply these phonic sounds to our reading and strive towards your children becoming more independent as readers. We will be focusing on writing more and how we can now use the sounds we know as writers as well as readers.

Mathematics

In the Spring, we will continue to follow the Mathematics Mastery Curriculum to develop a deep knowledge of numbers. We will be looking more closely at numbers to 10, their relationships and addition and subtraction. We will also be looking at the language of time.

Mantle of the Expert

In the Spring, we take a journey to Dinosaur Island and become Paleontologists. We are asked to travel to the island and explore the environment as dinosaur experts. We set up camp, find fossils, rescue injured dinosaurs and work together in a team to solve the problems that we face along the way. Wish us luck!

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or feel we can support you in any way, please speak to your child's class teacher.

The Reception Team