



## Key Learning in Reception



Week beginning - 9th April 2018

Class Teachers: Mrs Satterthwaite & Miss Cummings

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Baza, Miss Hampson,  
Mrs Ebrahim & Mrs Vasani

### **Circus, Plants, Minibeasts, Pirates, Father's Day, Children's Choice**

Welcome back, what a busy term ahead we have. For the first week we have been learning about the circus. This is helping us to develop our non-fiction skills in reading and enriching our vocabulary. The children have been able to dress up, act out and devise their own small world play in the loose parts which has extended their imaginative skills. This will be a great introduction to our circus day on 16<sup>th</sup> April, where the children will take part in workshops and watch a show.

We will continue to focus on non-fiction when learning about plants, moving on to the focus of writing instructions. We will be planting seeds and comparing the growth of the seeds in different conditions. Stories that will help secure children understanding of plants and growth include *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle, and *Jasper's Beanstalk* by Nick Butterworth.

When learning about minibeasts we will be using the stories of *The Bad Tempered Ladybird*, *The Hungry Caterpillar* and *The King of the Tiny Things*. Within this topic, we will teach the children to show care and respect for living things. We will also be teaching the habitats of different creatures, the life cycle of a caterpillar, story writing, letter writing and telling the time.

We will be using the stories of *Night Pirates*, *The Pirates Next Door* and *Pirates go to school* to support our topic on Pirates, and we will be going on a Pirate Day Trip to Beaumanor Hall on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

The children will explore festivals during this term and they will learn how and why people celebrate and they will also understand that we are a community with differences. The main festivals this term are Vaisakhi, Eid and Father's Day.

The children will continue to be taught Letters and Sounds in their ability groups, daily. Most children have now secured Phase 3 letter sounds e.g. j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er. The children who are secure with these sounds are encouraged to blend and segment for reading and writing.

We are now aiming for all children to secure Phase 4 (blending and segmenting words with adjacent consonants e.g. tent): being able to then read and write these words and decodable 2 syllable words, e.g. sunset.

Maths is also taught in small groups throughout the week based on their ability. We are focusing on Numbers: counting and recognition up to 20, counting on and counting back

for addition and subtraction and doubling, halving and sharing equal amounts. Shape Space and Measure: money and time.

Please continue to support your child at home with their Home & School Diary Reading Journal. It is very important that your child reads regularly at home. It is best to read a little every night to build up their reading ability, as well as practising their recall of their tricky words. Your child will be heard once a week by a member of staff and books will be changed if your child is able to retell the story and talk about the story. Please remember to keep your books in your book bag every day.

Your child will continue to bring his/her Learning Log home on Friday and it needs to be returned by **Wednesday** in the box in the classroom.

For P.E, children will change into their P.E. kits. Please make sure your child's P.E. kit is in school every Monday. We will send them home on Friday to be washed. We will focus on 'Big Moves', gymnastics and Sports day practise.

We do encourage children to talk about the life experiences that they have with their family and share with the class. We welcome children to bring in photos and certificates they achieve however please discuss these with your child beforehand.

Outdoor Learning is an essential part of the EYFS curriculum, incorporating Enabling Environments. We are required to encourage the children to experience the outdoor environment in all weathers. **Please ensure your child has named Wellington boots in school at all times.**

#### **THINGS TO REMEMBER:**

- Correct school uniform must be worn.
- No jewellery.
- All clothing, footwear and belongings should be clearly labelled.

#### **Ways to support your child at home.....**

- Allow them come in to school independently, leave them at the door.
- Give your child simple tasks to do at home, such as collecting items of clothing, setting the table or tidying up their room, to develop their independence and sense of responsibility.
- Read daily with your child and ask them simple questions about the characters and setting of the story. Practise their targets, support with homework.
- Play simple memory and listening games with your child to help their concentration and turn taking skills.
- Talking about people and communities: - Events they attend, celebrations they take part in, who is part of their family and the similarities and differences between individuals.
- Get children to write their own stories, sentences and diaries at home.
- Here are some websites that you may want to visit with your child.

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/> <http://www.ictgames.com/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years>