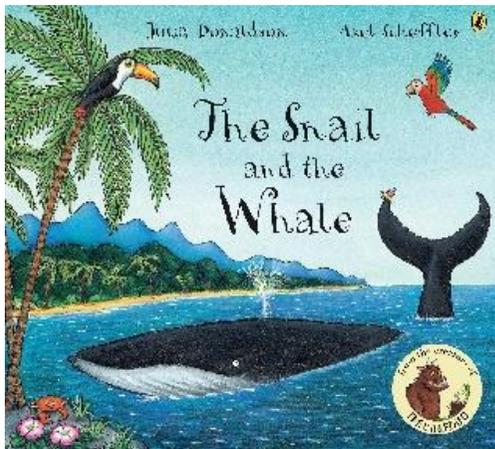


Prepare for Pirates!

Our topic this term is 'I wonder what's in the sea?', which will take us around the world exploring the different habitats and cultures on our amazing planet.

On the way there will be lots of different characters to meet, from mermaids to pirates, to capture imaginations and get us exploring. We hope to arrange a walk around the village this term in the spirit of discovery - look out for a call for parent volunteers on Dojo to help us with this!

Our focus book this term is 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. This book is packed with rich language and beautiful pictures and has lots of deeper messages about community, kindness and discovery. We can't wait to dive in!



Reception Curriculum News Letter Spring Term I I wonder what's in the sea?

Key Dates:

Monday 3rd Jan: Bank Holiday (no school)

Tuesday 4th Jan: INSET day (school closed to children)

Thursday 3rd Feb: School Health Nurse visit (weigh and measure)

Tuesday 8th Feb: Safer Internet Day

Friday 19th Feb: End of half term

Readers and Literacy packs

Please bring book bags into school on Monday.

As you will have noticed, the children are making lots of progress with their reading and writing!



At school, we will be continuing our daily phonics sessions, this term we are learning: j, v, x, w, y, z, ch and sh, and the 'common exception words' (know by sight) all, are, was, my.

There is an expectation that the children will be given opportunities to read at home, which is why we send home new reading books each week. Even five minutes a day will make a huge difference to your child and give them a real boost in their learning!

Dressing for the weather:



Your child will need a hat, a coat and some gloves every day at school in this chilly term! As these are easily lost, please do label these too and do let me know if you need to use some of our spares (we have quite a few!)

**PLEASE
ENSURE ALL
CLOTHING IS
NAMED!**

PE will continue to be on Mondays.



For PE, we ask that children come to school in their kits, but as the weather gets colder please layer up so your child is not cold.

The PE kits should look like:

Plain navy or black shorts
Plain white T-shirt or school polo shirt
Trainers/shoes for running
Tracksuit or hoodie
Long hair must be tied up for all PE sessions

We may choose to do PE inside or outside dependent on weather and the learning focus.

Our focus this term

Mathematics:

In maths we will continue to do one lesson a week on the concepts explored in the BBC 'Numberblocks' series. We will then explore the White Rose maths module 'Alive in 5' and 'Growing 7, 8, 9'.

Phonics:

We are moving from writing CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant, eg, 'c-a-t') towards building phrases and sentences this term, eg, 'the cat is sad'. Any practice and encouragement at home to write, be it with crayons, paint, chalk or otherwise, goes a long way in supporting your child's learning journey. Please get in touch if you would like any support with your child's learning as well as phonics is different to the way most of us learnt to read at school!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

This term we will be looking at some of the characters from 'The Snail in the Whale' to help us explore our emotions and how we can make others feel better. This book also is helpful for starting discussions on how to be a good friend and how to overcome challenges. We talk a lot at school about not panicking when we make mistakes - it's part of 'trial and error' **not** failure! We call them 'marvellous mistakes' as they help us learn.

Communication and Language:

Did you know that simply having a back and forth conversation with your child helps build positive emotional skills? There has been a lot of research into the synapse responses in the brain to 'serve and response' interactions, eg, asking questions of your child in a conversation, and they have shown that these interactions have a huge part to play in developing positive relationships. Furthermore, Early Language development underpins self-regulation, self-confidence and wellbeing. We love to chat in Inkpen class and we want to be 'radiators' of conversation - spreading out and sharing rich language through the day.

50 things to do before you're 5:

If you have not yet downloaded this app, I would highly recommend doing so! It's a really fantastic mobile app which comes up with games, ideas and challenges that are not only fun but will really benefit the children. Give it a try



www.50thingstodo.org