

Dear Parents,

RECEPTION CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER – SPRING TERM

We are very excited to welcome the children back to school for the Spring term. We hope that you have all had a fun but restful break and are looking forward to the new year as much as we are!

As a team we feel so proud of all that the children achieved during the Autumn Term and we are very excited to continue exploring a wide variety of different topics with them. Please continue to let us know about the different things your children would like to learn about by posting observations to Tapestry. This will help us to plan exciting weekly activities for the children and this will be shared via our learning information wall dojo posts on a Monday.

Special Snack

In the Autumn Term the children enjoyed cooking and making our special snacks! We are excited to continue developing the skills we have learnt. Sometimes we will eat our special snacks at school and sometimes we will bring them home with us.

In order to support this, we are asking for a donation of £10 per child, per term. You can pay per term or per year if you would like. The instruction for payment and consent for your child to participate is now available on the arbor portal. You will find the link within clubs, which can be found within the Activities menu. Thank you.

Subject Overviews

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Over the coming term we will aim to encourage the children to be independent at every opportunity. This will help them to take charge of their personal organisation, enabling them to get ready for activities such as P.E. and Forest School and to tidy up and put their things away independently in the morning and get ready for home time on their own. While continuing to reinforce the behavioural expectations and we will be focussing on teaching the children about the ways that we learn and what this can look like.

Please ensure that all items of clothing, including tights, are named clearly, to support the children finding their own clothes.

Communication and Language: We have been enjoying talk time and show and tell, and we will continue to use this time to develop the children's communication and language skills, encouraging them to talk in full sentences and begin to use connectives to explain their ideas. We will encourage the children to listen carefully to one another to help them to respond to the ideas, thoughts and feelings of others in appropriate ways. This term we will focus on encouraging the children to use 'how' and 'why' questions to develop their curiosity.

Physical Development: The children have loved their PE lessons in the Autumn Term, during which they have had the opportunity to explore their bodies and the different ways of moving. Teamwork will be encouraged and the children will work collaboratively to complete some exciting tasks. They will focus on ball skills, including throwing and catching.

To develop their fine motor skills, the children will be encouraged to write for an increasing amount of time in a range of ways on a daily basis, both independently and with an adult. In addition to this, we will start handwriting sessions linking to our RWI phonics scheme, reinforcing the correct way to form letters.

Literacy: Daily Phonics sessions will continue to be an important part of our weekly timetable and your child will bring a RWI 'book bag books' once they can blend confidently. These will link to what your child is reading and working on in school.

The frequency of writing sessions will be increased and the children will use both independent work and writing books on a regular basis. We will begin encouraging the children to form sentences and check that they can read them themselves.

The children will be encouraged to read words and simple sentences in books, spotting red words and sounds whilst doing so. They will continue their book talk sessions focussing on a different lenses from the reading rainbow.

Please read with your child as regularly as you can and make a note in their reading log. You may wish to share any reading with us on tapestry. This could be a picture and comment or a video.

Maths: Maths will now focus on securing number knowledge by counting aloud, subitising, recognising and writing numbers up to 10. We will continue to introduce the concepts of addition and subtraction in practical contexts using five frames and part whole models, before moving onto recording our sentences. Throughout the term we will also be learning about time, weight and height, using our continuous provision activities.

Understanding the World: The children will be experiencing and taking part in a variety of celebrations this term. These include New Year, Valentines, Chinese New Year and Easter.

We will be thinking about the different seasons, along with what we can see, hear and feel outside.

We will be exploring why and how things happen, encouraging the children to question and explore through practical exploration.

Expressive Art and Design: We will be creating individual and collaborative art work using a range of materials and techniques. The children will be encouraged to select the correct colours for different purposes and create simple representations of people, events and objects. We will look key artists linking to our topics; for example, Kandinsky. In addition we will be watching different types of dances and listening to different types of music, before exploring these in the classroom.

Community Pledges

As mentioned previously over this academic year the Reception children will aim to fulfill three Community Pledges. This is with the intention of developing their knowledge, appreciation and understanding of their local community. They are as follows:

- Plant, nurture and maintain the Reception garden.
- Visit local nursing homes, spending time interacting with the residents.
- Discover and celebrate new cultures.

What can I do at home to help my child?

- Ensure independence when dressing, particularly putting on socks/ tights and doing up buttons.
- Discuss taking responsibility for their own belongings – please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly named. Adding a small keyring to your child's PE bag can support them to find their bag more easily.
- Practise reading activities frequently to support your child's confidence when reading.
- Share stories together, discussing the beginning, middle and end.
- Encourage writing at every opportunity and use Tapestry to share this with us along with any other new achievements you wish to share with us.
- Discuss combining groups of objects using the language 'add' and 'subtract', along with writing it down in the correct format.
- Practise identifying 2D and 3D shapes and describe them by the amount of edges and corners they have.

Tapestry

We will continue to upload observations of the children's learning. Please comment on observations and to upload any learning at home. If you are having any difficulties with Tapestry, please ask a member of the team.

Class Dojo

We will share whole year group information on Class Dojo. Throughout the year we will notify you on Class Dojo of simple tasks for child to complete which you can upload to your child's account on Tapestry.

We can add extra emails to both Tapestry and Class Dojo. If you would like this or are having problems accessing either, please let us know.

Trips and Activities

During the Spring Term we will be partaking in walks around the local area in small groups this will include a Library visit, where we will select books to bring back to school based on our weekly topic

Key Dates

Please refer to the website via the following link for key dates. These include trips and our stay and play dates.

<https://www.nicholashawksmooracademy.com/events/>

Best wishes,

Reception Team



Balmoral Close
Towcester
Northants NN12 6JA
t 01327 351466
e enquiries@nhps.thlt.academy
www.nicholashawksmooracademy.com
Executive Principal – Andrea Curtis