

Reception Newsletter

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,



We hope you have all had a lovely holiday and enjoyed your break. We are excited to welcome the children back for the spring term. We run an open door policy so please do not hesitate to come and speak to us if you have any questions or concerns.

Reception Team

Mrs Waterman **Beethoven Class Teacher/ EVFS Phase Leader**
Miss Sharline **Beethoven Teaching Assistant**

Miss McCarthy **Mozart Class Teacher**
Mr Phillip **Mozart Teaching Assistant**



What we will be learning this term

This term our topics are 'Stories from around the World/Traditional Stories' and 'Growing'. We will be reading traditional stories such as Goldilocks and The Three Bears, Handa's Surprise, The Three Little Pigs and The Gingerbread Man. We will be reading the stories with the children and completing creative activities such as making puppets for retelling the stories, making story props and making yummy food such as cakes and gingerbread men.



Tips to support reading at home

- **Make the time:** Life is busy, but even ten minutes of reading with your child each day is one of the best ways you can support their education and help them to become a strong reader.
- **Take turns to read:** Often you'll want to listen to your child read aloud – reading to an adult is the most important thing children in the early stages of learning to read can do to develop their reading. But don't stop reading aloud to them. It's a great way of building their understanding, showing them what expressive reading sounds like and letting them enjoy a story.
- **Make reading relevant:** Just like adults, if a book is about something that interests your child, they'll be more likely to want to read it. Look at fiction, non-fiction, comics and children's newspapers to show your child how reading allows us to explore our interests and the world.
- **Talk about the book:** Asking your child questions or asking for their opinion can be an important way of helping them to think about what they're reading. As a rule, open questions that begin with 'how' and 'why' tend to be more engaging rather than simple recall questions ('How do you think Winnie is feeling on this page?' might work better than 'What is Winnie afraid of?').
- **Pay attention to the language:** When reading we can often take children's understanding of words or phrases for granted. By checking they're following, explaining the meaning or even looking up unfamiliar words and phrases together, you can widen your child's vocabulary and support them to make wider sense of the story.
- **Enjoy reading time:** Making time to read with your child can have great educational benefits, but it can also be ten minutes of respite from hectic family life to curl up, read and talk together. By all means ask questions and discuss vocabulary, but don't be afraid to lose yourselves in a good story too.



Attendance and Punctuality

Children need to be in school every day and on time as this is strictly monitored throughout the school.



Try this at home!

Explore sorting objects at home such as food (fruits and vegetables, green foods and other colour foods), coins (silver coins and bronze coins, round coins and not-round coins). Encourage and support the children in talking about how they sorted the items. Can they use other categories than the colour of something! You will be surprised by their ideas!

Home time

Please collect children at 3.15pm each afternoon in the small playground. If someone other than yourself will pick up your child please let the class teacher or TA and the office know beforehand. **If staff do not recognise the adult picking the child up they will not be able to allow them to collect them.** The person picking up your child should be 16 years or older.

Dates for your diary

Trips

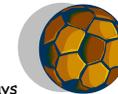
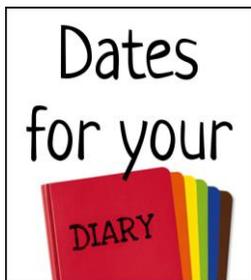
*Wednesday 10th January- Walk to Deptford Market

Reading Mornings

- Reading mornings will begin on Tuesday 9th January at 9:00 am. All parents are welcome.

Whole school events

*Our spring **Target Day** is also coming up soon
Wednesday 21st February. Letters will be sent out in order for you to make an appointment.



PE days

Tuesdays and Fridays

PE uniform:

P.E uniform may be purchased from Whitehall clothiers in Lewisham. Please write your child's name on all their clothing- it helps enormously if they get lost or mixed up with another child's clothes! Please note we are not responsible for any lost items of clothing, we teach children to take full responsibility of their possessions. If for any reason clothing is lost, we endeavour to help locate it but we do not replace uniform of any kind (please see our lost property policy).