



Curriculum Newsletter

Year R Term 4 2020

Welcome back to school and term 4. We hope you had a great half term and managed to avoid the rain! This term we are offering two workshops and we really hope to see as many of you as possible (grandparents are welcome if parents are working). Below sets out the curriculum content this term and what we hope to cover.

Reading and Writing

In **Phonics** we will be focusing on the following sounds known as digraphs (two letters making one sound):

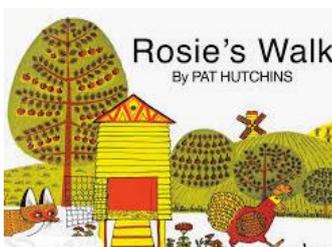
- ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa, or, ar, or, ur

We will also be focusing on the following tricky words (being able to read and spell them):

- I, no, go, into, the, he, she, we, me, be and **you, her, they, all are**

Teach your monsters to read website has proved to be a huge success at school and at home. If you have not already accessed this with your child, we thoroughly recommend it.

Due to the children's fascination with animals and misconceptions about what they might find in the Forest School pond (yes, sharks was one suggestion), we have decided to introduce some learning this term about farm animals and compare them to wild animals you might find in different countries and habitats. We will kick this off with the story Rosie's walk and we hope to do some story writing based around this book.



Maths

In maths this term, we will be

- Combining quantities to make a larger amount (early addition)
- Removing quantities to make a smaller amount (early subtraction)
- Writing numbers to 20
- Ordering numbers to 20
- Use mathematical names for 3d shapes (cuboid, cylinder, sphere, cube)
- Selecting named shapes
- Describing shape (faces, edges, vertices)

We are still learning the days of the week and months of the year and will continue to embed this across the summer.

The children have been trying really hard to count backwards from 20 and many are stumbling when they get to 13, 12, 11. If you can find as many opportunities to practise this, we would be very grateful.

These websites may help:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-with-maths>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/the-numtums>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>



Knowledge and Understanding of the World

The frosty weather brought out an unexpected interest with the children as they were in awe of the beautiful frozen cobwebs. After one child discovered some and said "eughh! Bash it down!" we did some wonderful learning around spiders, the marvellous of their skill in creating webs and then we took this as an opportunity to create webs using different media: paint, resist work, charcoal, line drawings, marble art and even weaving large webs in forest school.

This term, we will be learning about Spring and our local environment. We will then move on to learning about animals (as mentioned previously) to address some misconceptions about animals and habitats. If anyone has anything they would like to share in a Show and Tell activity with the children, they would love to hear from you (you may work with animals or have unusual pets etc).



PE will now take place on **Wednesday** afternoons.



Forest skills will now be on a **Tuesday** afternoon – please add your name to the rota on the noticeboard if you think you can help out. Many thanks to the parents who have helped out previously:

- Supporting children to get changed into their waterproofs and boots
- Supporting play in Forest School
- Supporting activities
- Helping with hand washing, hot chocolates and 'café time'.
- Washing mugs and flasks.



Well done to those children who are reading every night and a big thank you for the commitment from home. This is making a HUGE difference to your child's confidence and ability to read accurately. Keep this up as it is the single most important thing you can support your child with at school.

We have had a couple of regular reading helpers on a Wednesday afternoon and we are very grateful for this. If anyone else has a spare hour or two to do some voluntary reading, we would love to see you.

Positive
Parenting

A letter will be coming home very shortly about a Parent workshop we are offering to Reception parents from 'Community Learning'. The workshop will continue in April with two more sessions and the focus is on Positive Parenting. We are very lucky to have secured the workshops with them and the content looks fabulous.

Year R Term 4 Key dates:

Reception workshop **Wed 1st April 9am – 10am (focus: maths)**

Positive Parenting workshop **Thursday 2nd April 9:15-11:15am**

Dads in school day – **Wednesday 1st April 1:30pm**

