

Reception Spring Term Newsletter



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back and wish you a Happy New Year. We are all ready to start our new term with new ventures and exciting learning opportunities. Although, I don't think we were quite ready for the early, cold and snowy mornings!

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all of their kind and generous Christmas gifts. It is never expected but was gratefully received.

We take pride in our school uniform and all the children have returned to school looking really smart—Thank you!

Early Years Leader: Mrs Waterworth

RB: Mrs Bishop Mrs Pearson

RR: Mrs Ross and Mrs Jewkes

Mrs Whitticker

Colder Weather and Outdoor Learning

During the winter and cold months, can you please make sure your child attends school in the appropriate outdoor clothing. A warm coat, hat, gloves, and a scarf.

Most weeks Wild Wednesday will go ahead so please ensure that your child has welly boots and appropriate water proof clothing.

Labelling

It is really important that all children's clothes and belongings are labelled. Although, we teach the children to be independent, it is difficult to get the correct belongings to children without a name in them.

PE and Library Time

This term, PE will remain on a **Friday**. We have noticed that some children are not wearing the correct uniform for P.E. Children should be wearing the correct PE kit as part of their school uniform. This is a white t-shirt, blue or black shorts, trousers or leggings and white or black trainers. Please see the uniform policy on our website for more information. **Remember: Please remove your child's earrings if they wear them.**

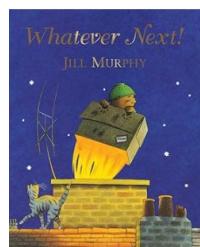
Friday will also be the day that they will have the opportunity to visit the school library and additional time to share stories in their classroom with their peers. This will also be the time they will change their sharing books each week.

Reading Records

Please ensure that each time you share phonic sounds or share a book with your child, you are adding a comment in their reading record for the class teacher to see. **Reading records should be in school everyday.** Daily reading is essential to support your child's development. Your child should be bringing home their phonic sounds and a sharing book each week.

Love of Reading

Our focus text this half term is "Whatever Next" by Jill Murphy. We will share this story once every week and explore themes around the story during this time.



If children have any favourite stories at home around the theme of transport and people who can help us, we are happy to share these during story times.



Mathematics Workshop

We were really happy to see so many parents/carers attend our phonics workshop in the Autumn term. We are already busy preparing a mathematics workshop. Details will follow and this will be an event that you will need to confirm your attendance. The workshop will take place before the Easter break.

Morning arrival and collection

We have a one-way system in place. Please can you follow this to ensure entering school and dismissal is a smooth transition for all children and adults.

There are always members of staff to greet the children at the beginning of the day. If there are any messages, please pass them on to the member of staff on the gate if required at the beginning of the day. Teachers will be in classrooms settling the children into school routines. If you require a conversation with the class teacher please call the office where an appointment can be made.

Please support us by continuing to wait on the bottom part of the playground when collecting children to ensure we can see all parents and dismiss children safely. Please inform us if somebody different is collecting your child as we will not be able to dismiss them unless they are on the collection list. In this instance you will be contacted by a member of the Early Years Team.

A Little Reassurance

It has been lovely to see the majority of children coming into school happy in the new term, with huge smiles on their faces. At the beginning of a term though, we often see some children finding the transition difficult as they ease their way back into routines.

To reassure you, this is normal and once they are through the door it doesn't take them long to settle. You may find them a little more sleepy at the end of the day too so an early bedtime routine always helps to make sure they are ready to learn at school everyday.

Exciting News!

We will be enjoying some lovely enhancements to our learning this half term. In January we will be inviting visitors to provide a '**Road Safety Workshop**' to support our children with understanding how to cross roads safely and why this important. As part of our 'It's an emergency' topic we will be enjoying visits from the **Midlands Air ambulance** with their helipod, a visit from the **Stourbridge Blue Watch** team to tell us all about the fire service and hopefully even a visit from a **Police Sergeant**!



Investigation Stations

What has wings? What has wheels?



Explore pushes and pulls

How do things move?

What/who would you like to be? Explore different occupations and emergency services.

Build a form of transport from construction.

Wow words

Road, traffic, traffic lights, pedestrian crossing, zebra crossing, safety, transport, vehicle, busy, rush, car, bus, lorry, truck, motorbike.

Emergency, Police, Fire engine, ambulance, air ambulance, helicopter, coast guard.

Space, station, rocket, moon buggy, shuttle, satellite, planets, launch, stars, gravity, astronaut, spaceman, UFO, alien, asteroid, astronomy, atmosphere, constellation, orbit, solar system, telescope, universe, sphere, rotate

Home challenge

Who is Neil Armstrong?



Find things around your home - Which objects do you push/pull to move?

Design and make a mode of transport. Create a label for your work.

Create a map showing your walk to school.

Please bring home challenges into school so we can share children's achievements.

This half term we are learning about Wings and Wheels.

The children will be exploring different modes of transport and discussing similarities and differences of past and present models. They will be exploring towns and maps and talking about emergency services and how they help us both in emergencies and in our community.

The children will be introduced to significant people in History and learning about space and the first successful moon landing.



Wings and Wheels

Dates: 5th January – 13th February

I can...

- use vocabulary to describe what things look and sound like
- talk about a variety of modes of transport I can on the roads
- I can discuss similarities and differences of old modes of transport to modern day
- discuss how I would travel to a different country or area of the UK
- identify what a map is and what they can be used for
- use instruments to create different transport sounds
- name some of the planets
- construct a rocket
- use marble painting to create a planet
- talk about the moon landing

Questions to Ask

How do people travel?



What transport modes can you think of?

What is similar between your bike and a penny farthing?

What is a map and what can we use it for?

How would like to travel? Why?

What type of transport would you use to get to why?



Where is space?

What is space?

Who landed on the moon?

Stories and songs

The Hundred Decker Bus



The Gingerbread Man

Whatever Next

Non-fiction texts about different vehicles and space.

The wheels on the bus

