

Reception Newsletter



Hello and welcome to our second edition of our Spring Term Reception Newsletter. We had a great start to the spring term introducing our Superheroes topic, celebrating the Chinese New Year and taking part in our health week. We look forward to lots more exciting learning opportunities.

Uniform

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's full name and class. This includes coats, hats gloves and scarves. Your child will be learning indoors and outdoors everyday so please bear this in mind when getting ready for school.

Book Bags

Please make sure that you have labelled your child's book bag with their name and class so that they do not get lost. Book bags are part of the school uniform and should be brought to school everyday.

Parents Evening

Thank you to the parents who attended parents evening. It was great being able to share your child's work with you and to let you know how they are getting on in school.

Thank you to all the parents who made the effort to complete our school questionnaire. We really value your comments.

Homework

Thank you to all of the children who completed their homework tasks. Once again we had some fabulous pieces of work back and these have been shared with the other children in the school. Awards have been given for children completing 3 or more of the homework tasks.

Unfortunately, we continue to have quite a few homework books that have not been returned and some of the books have not been looked after very well. We really encourage you to support your child to complete their homework tasks and take pride in their work. If you have misplaced your homework book then please let us know so that we can ensure that your child still receives their homework tasks.



Home Reading



Well done to all of the children who have been reading regularly at home. Home reading alongside the reading we do in school has really helped the children progress, with those children who are getting regular practise at home and school now becoming much more independent readers.

It is vital that you read regularly with your child. Research shows that children who read at home make better progress at school.

Encourage your child to read tricky words, look out for sounds that have been taught and to segment and blend to read words. To develop your children's comprehension skills, please talk about what is happening, who the characters are, how the characters might be feeling, what might happen next etc. **Books will continue to be changed on a Tuesday and Friday each week.**

Could you please fill out the comments box in the reading record diary when you have read with your child as this will tell us that your child's book is ready to be changed.

PE Kits

PE takes place every **Wednesday**. **Please make sure that a FULL PE kit is kept in school at all times. Label each item of clothing with your child's name.** We will send home PE kits at the end of every half term.

To reach Age Related Expectation at the end of Reception, children must be able to dress independently.



World Book Day—March 7th

The children can come to school dressed up as their favourite character from a story. We look forward to seeing their fabulous costumes. The children can also bring in their favourite book to share with the class. Please label any items you bring in with your child's name.

Thursday 7th March—World Book Day

Monday 11th March—Science Week

Friday 15th March—Red Nose Day

Wednesday 3rd April—Reception Workshop

Wednesday 3rd April—Autism Awareness Day

Superhero dress up day—Tuesday 9th April

Parents Open Evening—Wednesday 10th April

Don't forget to visit our school website. This is updated regularly with photographs to show what the children are learning, key dates, copies of letters and other important information. Visit <http://www.hollyhill.bham.sch.uk/>

Fantasy and Adventure

Our topic this half term is Fantasy, Adventure and Superheroes. The children will continue to read a variety of fiction and non fiction texts this half term. We will be discussing where stories are set and describing the different characters. We will focus heavily on acting out these stories and telling these stories to our friends as well as beginning to tell and write our own stories. We will be encouraging the children to recognise rhyme, familiar words and repeated phrases so that they can begin to read some words on their own.

In **phonics** the children will continue to learn phase 3 sounds. They will learn new digraphs (two letters that make one sound) and new trigraphs (three letters that make one sound). We will continue to practise our letter formation and learn to spell tricky words. We will be encouraging the children to use their phonic skills to read and write words to help them work towards the **Early Learning Goal** for reading and writing. Here children should be able to read and write simple sentences independently. Please support and encourage your child to read and write regularly at home.



A chart titled 'Phase 3 Sounds' showing various phonetic symbols and their corresponding sounds. The symbols are arranged in a grid, with each symbol accompanied by a small illustration of an object or animal that starts with that sound.

Phase 3 Sounds											
j	v	w	x	y	z	zz	qu	ch			
sh	th	ng	ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	oo			
ar	or	ur	ow	oi	ear	air	ure	er			

In **Maths** we will be working towards the **Early Learning Goals** for number and shape space and measure. These are: To count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. To use quantities and objects, to add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. To solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.

To use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. To recognise, create and describe patterns. To explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

As a Christian school our vision is to promote 'Life in All its Fullness.' Our ethos is based on our 12 Christian values of hope, honesty, patience, joy, forgiveness, tolerance, thankfulness, respect, kindness, friendship, gentleness and love. We actively promote and explicitly teach these values and they underpin everything we do.

The children will be taught our values in the following ways this half term:

Kindness: The children will learn about how to be kind to friends. We will learn about Jesus' friends.

Honesty: The children will learn about the importance of honesty and telling the truth.

Respect: The children will learn through stories that respect is important and that we should treat everybody and everything with respect. We will learn what happens when people do not show respect.

Forgiveness: The children will learn about the importance of forgiveness through stories of Jesus.

Joy: The children will be learning about how good can overcome evil in the Easter Story

Tolerance: The children will learn that it is important to tolerate everybody just as Jesus did.

Love: The children will learn about how Jesus loved everybody and how he showed this love.