

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term our topic in Reception Class is called '**Traditional Tales and Rocking Rhymes**' and we will cover the areas outlined in the attached plan. We hope that the plan will be of use to you when discussing school with your child especially singing Nursery Rhymes and reading Fairy Tales together at home. We will be organising an exciting day to celebrate this topic and we will let you know when this will take place. The children will be going on trips outside of school as this will enrich their learning and we will inform you of the details nearer the time of the visits.

Reading

We also continue to welcome you to join us in class on **Tuesdays** to read and change your child's sharing book from **8:45am - 8:55am** and would also like to extend this to **Thursdays** at the same time. Please ensure your child brings their sharing and choosing books to school **every day** along with their reading diary so that we can hear your child read and change their book when required. Please share these books with your child by discussing the pictures, characters and what might happen next and place books and diary in the school book bag. Please sign the reading diary when you have read with your child. Please note that if your book is lost or damaged then there will be a charge of £5.00.

Phonics

Children learn to read and write through phonics. We will be continuing to reinforce phase 3 phonics and red words. These are also known as Common Exception Words. Please see the attached phonic sheet and '**red**' word list. This half term we will be learning 'zz', 'qu', 'ch', 'sh', 'th', 'ng', 'ai'. The Parent portal for the FFT Phonics programme is: <https://parents.fft.org.uk/> which we hope you will find useful.

A gentle reminder for the end of the school day

In Reception class, the children are learning how to follow routines, be independent and learn how to be responsible for their belongings and we know that you will support us with this by encouraging your child at home.

We ask for your continued support and patience at the end of the school day when children are being dismissed from the playground. **It is of utmost importance that staff ensure children are reunited with their appropriate adult so please stand back from the line of children in the playground and refrain from calling out your child's name directly to them and wait for Miss.Bonnici or Ms. Diane to call out your child's name so that they can be dismissed safely.**

Collecting your child

We understand that it may be necessary for someone different to collect your child at the end of the day. Please ensure that you let us know at the beginning of the session or if it is an emergency by telephoning the office who will let us know who is collecting your child. We are unable to let children go home with anyone who has not been named in advance.

Junk Materials

We would be grateful if parents could bring in the following boxes for the creative area - cereal boxes, toothpaste boxes, Pringle boxes, shoe boxes, yogurt pots, plastic bottle tops, egg boxes, soap boxes and kitchen rolls.

If there is anything important that you need to discuss with a member of the Early Years Team, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Thank you for your continued support.
The Reception Class Team.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will learn to...

Build Relationships and manage our feelings. Take turns and share. Talk about and explore different emotions – being sensitive to needs of others and use our manners.

Speak in a familiar group with confidence and talk about our ideas, and choose the resources we need.

Learn Fairy Tales and nursery rhymes and talk about how they make us feel.

Understand other people's needs, wants and behaviours

Show confidence in speaking to others about their own

needs, wants, interests and opinions in a familiar group

Understand Stranger – danger. Bullying. Doing the right thing and making the right choices.

Discuss working as a team and helping each other. How can we make a bridge outside as a team – what makes a good team player?

Understanding the World We will learn to...

Talk about past and present events in our own lives and in the lives of our family members such as birthdays, Baptisms...

Talk about the features of our own immediate environment where we live and how environments might vary from one another such as home and school.

Conduct a science investigation – which is the best material to protect us from the rain? Which is the best material to use to build a house/to build a bridge?

Find out about the origins of fairy tales

Explore maps and learn about the Globe

Identify Materials and ask what different things are made of.

Write geographical language labels: tree, cottage, house, sky, grass, river, stream, hill, flowers, plants, bridge, ladder, fence. Sort everyday materials

Enjoy collecting natural materials on our Spring Walk.

RE: Celebrations – including the story of Simeon in the Temple
Looking at events such as Chinese New Year: Dragon's in the City.

Expressive Arts and Design We will learn to... create

artwork in the style of Antoni Gaudi: Focussing on buildings and natural materials and shapes in nature that inspired him. Create a castle. Make a house made out of sweets as treats and a healthy house.

Create a ginger bread house from different materials

Create music in a range of ways, e.g. plays with sounds on a musical instrument

Play along to the beat of the song we are singing or music we are listening to

Use tools to make models and other forms of art to explore our interests. Junk modelling of building structures: Homes and bridges

Wrap presents for celebrations.

Use combinations of art forms, e.g. moving and singing, making

Literacy We will learn to...

Recall and discuss stories or information that has been read to us, or have read ourselves

Begin to develop phonological and phonemic awareness – to continue a rhyming string and identify alliteration

Hear and say the initial sound in words and segment and blend simple words

Show enjoyment in creating texts to communicate meaning

Give meaning to the marks made as we draw, write, paint and type using a keyboard or touch-screen technology

Write a list of healthy food we could take on a picnic.

Learn to sing nursery rhymes and sequence main events in Fairy Tales

Reading and writing simple words

Make a story map that shows the main places and events that take place in the story. 'Once upon a Time'

Writing instructions for Hansel and Gretel and writing geographical map labels

Make a labelled picture with instructions of how to make a bridge for the Three Billy Goats Gruff to cross

Answer questions – what do you need? What would be the best material to use? What bonding agents would you need and why?

Terrific Tales and Rocking Rhymes



Physical Development We will learn to...

Negotiate space successfully when playing racing and chasing games with other children, adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles

Travel with confidence and skill around, under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment. Make an obstacle course

Handle scissors, objects, construction and malleable materials with increasing control and safety

Show understanding of the need for safety when tackling new challenges, and consider and manage some risks

Throw and catch and kick a ball, beanbag, rolling balls and hoops,

Look at healthy snacks and sweets as treats.

Go, over, under, in, out and through the equipment.

Throwing – Use different body parts to move and balance a beanbag.

Communication and Language We will learn to....

Show variability in our listening behaviour;

Understand a range of complex sentence structures including negatives, plurals and tense markers

Extend our vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words

Talk about Fairy Tales and sing Nursery rhymes.

Role play Fairy Tales and nursery rhymes

Debate why the troll should/ should not let the goats across the bridge.

Describe the characters in the story.

Enjoy a Fairy Tale dressing up day where we will describe the characters we have dressed up as and answer questions about our outfits and accessories.

Mathematics We will learn to...

Find out 'how many' objects there are altogether.

Deepen our understanding of 5 as a quantity by linking the number itself to the 5 fingers on one hand and explore ways to represent numbers to 5 using both fingers.

Understand and explore the composition of the 'fiveness' of 5 and its relationships with other numbers.

Explore verbal counting to larger numbers.

Mathematical names for 'solid' 3D shapes and 'flat' 2D shapes, and mathematical terms to describe shapes.

Recognise, create and describe patterns.

Measure – length, height, capacity, money

Use directions and positional language such as on top of, under, over...

Weigh, measure, count & share by making playdough 'sorry' cupcakes from the troll to the goats.

Explore capacity.

Reception Class