



Reception Summer Term Curriculum Newsletter

2017 - 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all the support you have given us in aiding your child's education so far this academic year. We have put together this letter in order to support you in understanding how you can continue to assist your child's progress this term at St Richard Reynolds.

Reading:

Thank you for all the support you have given in helping your child's reading over the last term. It is great to see how well their learning is coming along.

Just to remind you, children should be reading their reading books every night at home. This further develops their knowledge of sounds and enhances their blending skills. As well as hearing your child read, we encourage you to ask them questions about what is happening in the book. By doing this, it will develop their comprehension skills and it is a good opportunity for them to use talk in order to engage in the story.

Once you have heard your child read, please either put a note in their reading record about any successes/difficulties that may have occurred or simply write an initial; this will make us aware that the books have been read at home. Reading books and reading records should then also be put back into the red book bag and we expect them to be in school every day.

Writing and Mark Making:

We are continuing to encourage children to apply their phonic knowledge through writing. For example, children may be asked to: write a piece of news about their holidays/weekends; write a card for someone they love; use their imagination to create a character and write information about them. We are also encouraging the children to work more independently when writing; having a go by themselves to write a word or sentence before coming and asking for help.

Whilst writing can be tricky, we also promote the use of 'meaningful mark making'; using pens, pencils, crayons, paints, chalks to convey a story or message. If there are ever those opportunities in which your child wishes to share something through mark making we fully encourage it. You may then want to ask your child if they can write any initial sounds highlighting what it is they have drawn. They may even want to write some words or labels whilst speaking to make it even more clear as to what their picture is conveying.

Maths:

Number is all around us and we look to make number relevant on a daily basis in school. Please look for opportunities to 'number hunt' when at home or even when you are out in order to practice and enhance your child's number recognition.

This term we will continue working on our number recognition of numbers up to 20 and applying our adding and taking away skills. Further on in the term, we are going to recap and learn about:

- 2D and 3D shapes, their names and properties
- Doubling numbers
- Halving and sharing
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- Days of the week and time
- Money
- Measuring and comparing height and weight

In class we also continuing to use our school iPads to aid our mathematical understanding. The children have enjoyed engaging in a variety of mathematical games and have used them well to enhance their knowledge. If you would like to do the same at home please visit: <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/3-5-years/counting> and feel free to browse and look at the different games the website has to offer.

Tapestry:

Thank you so much to everyone for their contributions on Tapestry. We really want to now gather together all the learning experiences, both from inside and outside of school, to contribute to your child's overall profile.

There will be learning opportunities and experiences that will occur outside of school that we will not see and it would be brilliant if these can be shared. For example, your child may ride their bike for the first time; help make a cake at home; write or create a card for someone's birthday; read

to a sibling or friend; help make dinner or set the table. These little snippets are always so valuable at creating an overall profile of your child and parental contributions are always greatly appreciated.

Other learning opportunities that are highlighted above can also be documented and shared through Tapestry. When going to the park, what numbers did you spot? How many sweeties did you have and how many are left? Where did you see words and writing and what did they say? Why did it say that? Perhaps you would like to write to Mr Hasker or Miss McMullen about something amazing you did this weekend or holiday!

Home Challenges:

At the end of last term we started sending home 'Home challenges'. These will continue to be sent home every Friday and will link to one or two Early Learning Goals. A reminder that you can use 'A guide to supporting your child in Reception' to help you think of ideas for activities that you can complete with your child at home. These observations and pieces of work can then be placed on Tapestry or placed inside your child's book bag.

PE:

In the summer term children will be developing coordination skills and racket control through short hand tennis. Children will develop jumping, running, throwing skills in preparation for multi skills sports day.

Music:

Reception children will be continuing to develop their understanding of pitch and rhythm through the use of rhymes, percussion instruments and singing games. In particular, they will improve their ability to demonstrate the difference between pitch and rhythm, and be able to recognise and explain changes in tempo, and volume. Reception will also be working on singing in parts, turn-taking and projecting the voice.

We hope that you find this letter useful. If you have any questions then do not hesitate to contact me. We now look forward to what I am sure will be a successful final term in Reception!

Kind regards,

Mr Hasker

Important Dates

Tuesday 24th April- English Curriculum Evening

Wednesday 2nd May- Meet new Head of Primary and Admissions Talk for all Primary parents

Friday 4th May- St Richard Reynolds Feast Day

Monday 7th May- Bank Holiday

Friday 11th May- Reception Class Assembly

Wednesday 23rd May- House Afternoon

Monday 28th May– Friday 1st June Half-term

Wednesday 11th July- Transition Day

Friday 13th July- Sports Day

Wednesday 18th July- House Afternoon

Friday 20th July- End of school year (1pm)