






April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Reception class children could practise their independent writing skills at home using the phonics knowledge they have learned so far, for example by: writing ideas for the shopping on a post it - 'Can we have biskits plees'; writing a letter to a friend or family member - 'Cum for a picnic with us'; or labelling favourite items around the house and garden 'teddee' (teddy), bighk (bike), choclut caick (chocolate cake!).					Perhaps your Pre-school child could practise a joke at home to share with their friends in school!	



Why do bees have sticky hair?
They use honeycombs.

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	
At home on a daily basis, perhaps you and your Pre-school child could focus upon developing their independence for example by: encouraging them to dress independently; practising using a knife and fork and independently cutting their own food; practising independent wiping when toileting (particularly for children starting Reception in September); and carrying their own bags as they walk into school.						
8	9	10	11	12	13	
		At home, Reception class children could practise doubles! You could use practical, fun activities, e.g. making a shopping list with 'double 3 bananas' for your child to work out, or painting a ladybird with 'double 4 spots'!! You could even make up your own games, e.g. roll a dice and do double that many star jumps, hops or jumps!!! We are aiming for children to know doubles 1 to double 5 off by heart!				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Supporting and developing friendships is a big focus in Pre-school and in Reception class. Ways to help your child at home could include having a play dates with friends from school - we can really see the wonderful positive impact of this on children's confidence and friendships in school. You are very welcome to chat to a member of staff in your child's class regarding your child's friendships when organising play dates.						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Another way to support and develop your child's friendships at home is to talk about their feelings and other's feelings. Being aware of how other people feel and being able to verbalise how they feel to others are excellent skills which contribute towards developing positive relationships. You could use examples from home, e.g. how a sibling feels when you share your toy, or from stories too, e.g. talking about what a character did in a story and how that made them and others feel.						
29	30	31				
		Half term holiday. Return to school on Monday 6th June.				



Pre-school News

Communication and language

In Pre-school we are practising speaking in longer sentences and using some of the new vocabulary that we are learning. We are also beginning a daily joke so please have your ears ready for when the children return home that day as they may want to share the jokes with you! Your child is very welcome to share their jokes from home with their friends at Pre-school too.

Personal, social and emotional development

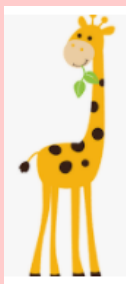
Key focuses in Pre-school throughout the summer term are on kindness to others, managing our own emotions, and helping any of the new children that are just beginning their Pre-school journey. Starting to understand the impact of unkind words and actions and how people may feel are some of the important aspects of friendships that we will be exploring. We will also be encouraging the children to think about how they can make friends and we will be discussing and modelling problem solving strategies that the children can use to help them to access play with others and to stay friends.

Physical Development

We are so proud of all of our Pre-school children for becoming much more independent! If your child does still need a little support in this area, please could you encourage and give them ample opportunities to feed themselves, cut up their own food with a knife and fork and also open their own yoghurts, crisp packets and little tubs at home too. As some of the bigger children start to get ready for reception class we expect them to also manage toileting independently, put on their own coats (even if they are inside out), and carry their own bags for example. Well done children! To develop early writing skills we will be continuing to write our name with only the first letter as a capital letter and the remaining letters in lower case, using a comfortable grip. As we build up our gross motor skills, we will be preparing and practising ready for Sports day on the 27th May!

Other areas of learning...

The children really enjoy blending and segmenting new words in Pre-school with visits from Geraldine the Giraffe as we continue to practise these along with some initial sounds of objects.



Exciting books we will be looking at this half term include: Sun by Sam Usher; Commotion in the Ocean by Giles Andreae; and Katie in London by James Mayhew! We will even be talking about the Queen and London as part of British values and traditions!



Mike the Maths magician will be visiting us as we are working on counting to 10 and back again, seeing and following pattern sequences, practising our subitising playing games with the die and starting to match numbers and quantities.

'Growing' is one of our fantastic themes this half term; we will be planting seeds and making our garden look bright and colourful as we learn to care about living things and notice changes within our environment.

Wednesdays will now be Welly Wednesday when we will be popping on our wellies, getting out and about as we explore the school grounds and the wooded areas at the back, learning and playing games. Please ensure that your child has a pair of named wellies in school. If you wish you can leave a named waterproof jacket in Pre-school.



We love exploring textures and materials at Pre-school especially as things change from liquid to solid, mixing mud, water and sand, making potions and perfumes. It is so much fun and so valuable for developing early science and mathematical knowledge and understanding. Please remember lots of spare clothes as we come into the summer term as the water tray will be open on sunnier days, along with the mud kitchen and sand area - amazing learning can result in getting very messy!

The Bursting Shelf has proven to be a huge success in supporting children's confidence, communication and language. Please remember that only 1 small item for the bursting shelf every day please as our shelf is starting to burst!



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Reception Class News

Literacy

This term we will have a huge focus upon children developing their independence in writing in preparation for Year 1. To support children we will be encouraging them to: remember to 'hold the sentence' (repeat the sentence three times, each time using their finger gnosis to count the words); as they segment each word to 'say it, stretch it and segment it'; and also reminding children that 'when you write it you must read it' so that they read and check their own writing every time. We are practising



and embedding using full stops in our writing, introducing singing the alphabet song and learning the names (rather than just the sounds) of letters, and will begin to use capital letters to start our sentences. Each morning from 8.50 we will have handwriting, 'Early Morning Writing' or 'Early Morning

Maths' activities where children will be practising their letter and number formation as well as independent writing skills. Your child should now be using an effective pencil grip and good writing posture and these sessions will also help to refine this.



This half term we will be exploring the whole school text, Don't look in this book by Samuel Langley-Swain. In Reception class we are going to focus upon the part of the story with Arctic ninjas fighting icy spiders!!!! We will be thinking about what could happen next in the story and the Ninja moves that would help us to defeat the giant icy spiders. As scientists we will be investigating the best way to melt the icy spiders too! Other books and stories that we will be focusing upon this half term which are linked to our fantastic Monster Phonics scheme include The Frog and the Coin, The Gingerbread Man and The Little Red Hen!

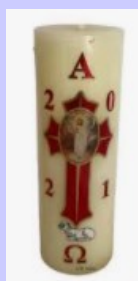


Mathematics

In mathematics we are embedding subtraction within number bonds to five so that children know off by heart all of the subtraction facts in their number bonds to five: 5-0=5, 5-1=4, 5-2=3, 5-3=2, 5-4=1, 5-5=0. We are learning all about composition to ten and using our fingers to support our understanding of 'five and a bit' to show numbers 6-9. We will also begin to introduce doubles as well as odd and even numbers during this and next half term.

RE

In RE this half term we will be learning about Easter and about prayer. We will also begin to learn about Pentecost. While learning about the Easter story we will be especially thinking of our own 'I wonder' questions



as we think about what happened in this bible story e.g. I wonder why Jesus didn't use a miracle to stop the soldiers from arresting him? The children will draw pictures and act out what happened, dressing up as different characters in the story. Amazing vocabulary that we will be learning in RE includes: Easter; Easter candle; resurrection; and Alleluia!

Other areas of learning...

This half term, as detailed on Google Classroom we will have the last two Show and Tell sessions - children's choice the first week back after Easter and then sharing our homework projects later in the half term.

This summer term we are planning a very exciting trip for Reception Class! More details to follow soon,,!!

