

Welcome to The Infant Curriculum Letter

Autumn Term first half 2020

Teachers: **Miss Panter (Monday – Wednesday) and Mrs Wittich (Thursday and Friday)**

On Tuesdays **Mrs Baker** (Teacher) and **Mr S** (Sports Coach) will also teach the class teach during PPA time. (planning, preparation and assessment time)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Infant Class!

We hope you had a good break over the summer. The children have returned to school excited to meet their friends and ready to learn. They have made a super start to the year. This letter outlines our plans for the next half term in all curriculum areas. It will also give you further information about learning at home and our expectations.

English

We will begin the half term by getting to know the story of *The Little Hen and the Great War*. We will be using the text to share our responses to the book and to develop our writing skills by retelling parts of the story. We will also think about the main character in the story and recount events from the story as the character through letters and diaries. Our work in English will link closely to our learning in other curriculum areas within our main topic as detailed later in this letter.

Reading: Children will be reading every day at school and will also take part in guided reading and comprehension activities. **As an important part of your child's home learning, they should be reading at home every day.** This should be reading aloud to an adult but with independent time to prepare before reading aloud if needed. The children will not change their book every day. In their Home School Communication book, you will find a sticker explaining the skills that they should be working on as part of reading at home. By reading the book and working on the skills, the book will need to be kept for at least two days. Comments on their reading and skills should be recorded every day in the Home School Communication book.

The children will also be bringing a library book home with them. This will be a book of their choice to enjoy at home. Please remember to return the book in order to be able to choose another one.

Spelling and Phonics: Spellings or phonics practise will be given to the children every Friday and tested the following Friday. There will either be a focus on a specific 'rule' or sound or on a set of statutory words. **Weekly stickers will be sent home in the Home School Communication books.** There will also be daily phonics spelling lessons in class.

The children will also choose a library book of their choice to enjoy at home. It should be returned each week to enable them to choose another book.

Maths

In maths we will be focussing upon number and place value. The children will be counting forwards and backwards up to 20/100. They will be estimating and counting a variety of objects by making up groups of ten and some more. The children will learn to compare two numbers stating which is bigger than, smaller than or equal to using the correct vocabulary and symbols $>$, $<$, $=$.

Each week the children will be set a task to complete on Mathletics. **The task will be detailed on a sticker in the Home School Communication book.** The sticker should be signed by a parent to show completion of the set task. In order to achieve instant recall of multiplication and related division facts of all times tables by the end of Year 4, children in the Infant class will be asked to learn by heart multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5, 10, 3 and 4 x table by the end of Year 2. We will of course work on these in class but you will also be asked to help your child to learn the facts at home. **The x table your child is working on will be detailed in a sticker in their Home School Communication book.** Once we have assessed that they are secure at one set of x facts, another sticker will be added to the book to show that they are ready to move on. **The home maths tasks will be set every Monday with a week to complete.**

Science

In Science lessons the children will be studying animals including humans. They will be sorting animals into mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, birds and amphibians. After that the children will discover which animals are herbivore, carnivore and omnivore. We will also discuss what animals need to survive and grow. They will label the main parts of a body and complete investigations using all of the senses.

Topic (History)

This half term, we will be using recent events from the children's own lives to discuss our topic title: Super Heroes don't always wear capes! We will be thinking about the heroes from recent times in the fight against Covid and then heroes from the past beyond the children's living memory. We will be finding out about heroes from the World Wars including how the wars effected those who lived in Reed and nearby and how lives changed. This will include understanding what we are remembering on Remembrance Day. Please do have a look at our topic overview which gives even more detail.

<https://reed.herts.sch.uk/classes/infant-class/>

PE

Working with our PE Coach on Tuesdays, the children will continue to develop their skills in athletics. They will learn how to improve their, running, jumping, throwing and catching. As always the children will be encouraged to evaluate their own and others performances in a constructive way and develop their ability to work as part of a team. The children will also be working with a specialist cricket coach each Monday.

Music

This half we will be exploring duration in music and using various instruments to play long and short sounds. The children will develop the use of body percussion to express

themselves through music and discuss how music makes us feel. The children will also listen to some war time favourites! This will be taught by Mrs Baker.

PSHE

Our Jigsaw topic this half term is: Being Me in My World. We will be using our Jigsaw friends to consider how the classroom is a special and safe place to learn. We will discuss the rights and responsibilities of being a member of Infant class and that everyone's views are valued.

Art

We will be learning skills to work with clay and textiles to create poppies to remember our heroes.

Design Technology

Our project will be taught after half term as our topic continues!

Computing

In this area of the curriculum we will be learning the difference between hardware and software. The children will also learn how to log onto the school network and store digital information. They will know how to use technology safely and sensibly and understand that you must ask permission to take someone's photograph.

It is important that your child has a water bottle in school every day. This will need to be taken home at the end of the day, washed and refilled.

All children should have a pair of wellington boots which can be kept in school in the class boot box outside.

Now that the children have settled into their new year groups we look forward to answering any questions that you have regarding the curriculum or day to day routines in the Infant class.

Please join us through Zoom on Wednesday 16th September at 6.00pm using the following link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7634104353?pwd=K2F2eVB6ZURGZFEvOGpCd3FNeEISdz09>

Meeting ID: 763 410 4353

Passcode: 805719

If you would like talk to us one-to-one, please write a message in the Home School Communication book, arrange a meeting, or send an email to c.panter@reed.herts.sch.uk or head@reed.herts.sch.uk

Please note that emails may not get a response straight away, and any emails sent in the evenings and over a weekend/holiday may not be answered until the next school day.

We look forward to an exciting term!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Panter and Mrs Wittich

(Infant Class Teachers)

Infant Class - The week at a glance	
Monday	Daily Reading Mathletic set, x tables facts set PE - Cricket
Tuesday	Daily Reading PE - Athletics Library day
Wednesday	Daily Reading
Thursday	Daily Reading
Friday	Daily Reading Spelling and phonics test Spelling and phonics learning set Celebration Assembly