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“Learning Together, Learning for Life”

Aspiration

Independence

Resilience

Respect

Early Years Half Termly Letter

Spring 2 2023

Early Years Teacher: Miss Ingram

Early Years Learning Support Assistants: Mrs Bateman, Mrs Bryan and Mrs Rozier.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new term. Please find below details of our learning for the next half term. The children will continue to learn through a mixture of child initiated learning (play), adult led teaching and adult led small groups and 1:1. This half term our topics will include; Books, Spring, Families and Easter

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This continues to be a main focus of our interactions and learning in EYFS. The children will continue to be encouraged to form positive relationships, understand and manage different social situations and gain a greater understanding of feelings through play. This half term we are also introducing a regulation station to the classroom and all classrooms across the school, these will provide opportunities for the children to reflect on their emotions and help them to manage and regulate 'big' feelings.

Physical development

The children will continue to have a PE lesson with a sports coach each Tuesday. In addition, we will have lots of opportunities in the classroom for the children to develop their fine and gross motor skills, including, weekly dance and yoga sessions, mark making and handwriting sessions, cutting challenges, playdough, digging and sweeping outside etc.

Communication and language

Building the children's communication and language continues to be a main focus and priority. We will continue to build vocabulary and understanding through daily conversations, stories and songs. Children will be supported to understand questions and articulate their thoughts and ideas with each other to share experiences and problem solve.

We will have weekly 'Talk Times' where a child will be invited to bring an item from home to talk about to the rest of the class. These will happen on a Tuesday afternoon. You will be notified a week before your child's turn via the home/school communication book.

Literacy

Reception and nursery will continue to have daily phonics lessons. Nursery children will continue to work through Little Wandle Foundations for phonics, where the focus is on listening skills and hearing the sounds in words. Reception children will be working on Little Wandle phase 3 phonics. Reception children will have three weekly adult led reading sessions using books matched to their current phonics, they will take these books home at the end of the week. Reception children will also continue to apply their phonics to writing short words and sentences with correct letter formation. All children will have the opportunity to borrow a school library book.

We will also have daily story times and introduce the children to new texts through adult led sessions. The children will be encouraged to explore books, mark making and writing through their play in child initiated learning.

Maths

We will continue to focus on numbers 1-5 for the majority of this half term. Nursery children who are secure in counting amounts 1-5 will start to explore subitising amounts to 3 (this means knowing the amount without counting.) They will also start to explore different ways of making and representing amounts e.g. using counters, writing marks on paper, counting on fingers, combining amounts. Reception will continue to consolidate their knowledge and understanding of number bonds up to 5. They will also start to work with numbers beyond 5 up to 10.

Understanding the World

This half term the children will explore the season of spring. We will also learn about the diversity of families and this will include learning about and celebrating Mother's Day. Finally the children will learn about Easter, first how knowing the Christian story and traditions and then exploring traditions and celebrations of Easter as a public holiday i.e. Easter bunny etc.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will have lots of opportunities for creative expression during adult led sessions. Moreover, they will develop their skills further through play in child initiated learning. As always the children will have access to lots of construction, role play and small world opportunities through their play in the classroom, which is supported by adults working closely with them. They will also have painting, drawing and crafting opportunities. We have daily singing and the children will continue to build their repertoire of songs.

Reminders

Please ensure book bags are in school every day with their reading books and home school communication book inside. Please ensure your child brings a water bottle every day and appropriate clothing for all weather.

Home Learning

Please check the Google classroom and the home school communication book regularly for announcements and home learning.

Reading - Please share and read books at home with your child daily. Reading to your child promotes a love of reading, teaches them how books are used and helps develop their vocabulary. All the children will borrow a school library book to share with you. Library books are changed every **Monday**.

Reception readers - Reception children will continue to bring home a new phonics book each week. Your child should read to you daily, please record in the home/school communication book when they have read. Reading books are changed every **Friday**.

Games - Your child will have the opportunity to borrow a game. Games are great for your child's personal, social and emotional development. It is important that your child doesn't always win so please don't go easy on them or let them win! Games are changed every **Wednesday**.

If you would like to talk or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me using the home/school communication book, via my email f.ingram@reed.herts.sch.uk (please be aware that emails will be checked/answered during working hours (when children are not in class) and not during the weekends) or in person by making an appointment for a meeting.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Ingram