



Fleet Primary School

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Heroes



Reception Autumn Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception!

I hope you all had a lovely summer. It has been really nice coming back to a few familiar faces and meeting new families too. Already I am so amazed with how the children have settled in and are starting to gel as a group. There are lots of wonderful new friendships budding.

Thank you for your support with the transition period. It really does make a big difference to the way the children settle and allows us to spend more time with them on an individual basis.

Myself, Shami, Mimosa, Joanne and Shae will be working in Reception this year. Either Becca Wall or Rhian Mulji will release me for my planning and preparation time on a Friday afternoon.

Autumn Term Topic

At Fleet, the National Curriculum is enriched and taught through a termly topic.

This term our topic is *Heroes*. We will learn about real life heroes such as doctors, nurses and firefighters as well as super heroes.

Each week we will have a different key text linked to the topic. Including the following and more –



There will be lots of fun and creative activities linked to these stories such as coming up with our own superhero personas, thinking about what our powers could be, setting up a *Super Hero School*, making masks and capes.

Role-play will play a big part in this topic. We will have a *Teddy Bears Hospital*, *Fire Station*, *Bat Cave*, *Super Hero School* as well as many more I'm sure will crop up with the children's interests.

We know that role-play plays a really big part in supporting social and emotional development as well as language skills. The role-play areas will also be a tool for us to support their writing skills purposefully through their play. For example, in the *Teddy Bear Hospital* we will have paw-scription forms and doctors notepads. In the *Bat Cave* will have clipboards for designing a batmobile etc.

Teddy Bear Hospital Paw-scription



Teddy Bear Hospital Patient Details



Name:

Symptoms

Treatment

How to be a Ninja

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.



FIRE LOGBOOK



DATE:

ADDRESS:

SOLUTION:

Daily Routine

The Early Years Curriculum promotes learning through the children's interests and their play.

The adults working in the class help to facilitate the children's ideas as well as extending them. We work individually with each child and in small groups, aiming to get alongside them and what they are interested in doing as much as possible. There are also times through-out the day where we will run adult lead activities such as; maths games, writing tasks, phonics games and art activities.

A typical day starts with a carpet session and writing activity. We then have a fruit snack and break. After morning break, we have a phonics carpet session and guided reading. We stop for lunch at midday then in the afternoon, we have a Maths carpet session and activity.

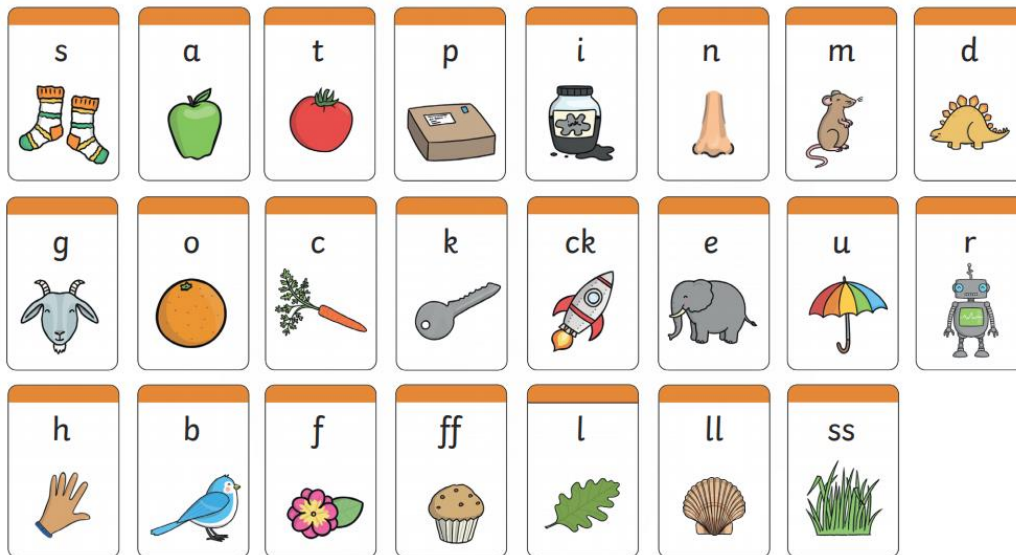
Phonics

Initially our focus in phonics will be on ensuring the children are secure with tuning in and listening to different sounds. Areas such as rhyme and alliteration will be a focus. We will ensure the children can notice words that rhyme such as *cat*, *hat* and *bat* and words that start with the same sound such as *blue* and *ball*. It is important that they can discriminate between different sounds and tune into these before learning about individual letters.

We will then learn about letters and the sounds these make.

The children will learn letters in the order that they are used most regularly in English.

The order is as follows -



One day a week, phonics time will be dedicated to learning to read high frequency words. Some of these can be easily decoded like *dad* and *mum*. Others we call 'tricky words'. These are words that can not be easily sounded out such as *l*, *the*, *to*, *no*, *go*. We teach the children to read these by sight.

| Phase 2 High Frequency Word Mat | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|-----|-----|
| a | on | his | go |
| dad | up | to | an |
| I | back | him | as |
| mum | if | had | can |
| big | but | in | off |
| it | of | no | not |
| at | into | got | get |
| is | | the | and |

I will keep you updated about what we have been learning in phonics and ways you can support your child at home.



Reading

During our daily guided reading sessions, I work with a little group of children and we share the same text together. Working in a group allows the children to talk and develop their ideas with their peers. We know talking about a story supports their understanding and helps children develop confidence to read. In the group we spent time thinking about the story, making connections, looking at the pictures and making predictions about what the words might say. We then read the book together and use what we have been learning in phonics to help us as well as specific reading strategies such as; using the initial sound to think what the word could be, breaking the work into chunks, searching the pictures for clues, thinking about what might make sense to the story and sentence. After reading in their group, I will read individually with the children too.

Your child will take home the book they have read in their group and the book they have read individually with me. These 2 books will be changed once a week. I will inform you of their reading day shortly. The

children can also choose two picture books to take home. I am happy for them to change their picture books whenever they are finished with them. If you haven't already, please purchase a bookbag from the school office.

As the children build up more phonetic understanding, they will begin to decode the words with more ease. Initially they will rely on you for support. The aim by the end of Reception is for the children to be able to read a simple sentence independently. We have the whole year to get them reading so please don't worry if it is taking time. We want to make sure it is as enjoyable and supportive as possible.

Some strategies you could use are...

- Reading the story first and they read it back.
- Encourage them to finish the sentence.
- Ask them to find the words on the page and point to them.
- Go for a treasure hunt... *Can you find the letter ___?*
- Share the text by reading a page each.



Mathematics



In maths, the children will be learning to count reliably to 20, recognise and order numbers to 10 and then 20.

The children will learn how to add small sets and to take away. This will be introduced in meaningful ways, often through their play. We already have a few favourite maths games we play to help us with your number knowledge.

Creative Development

As well as activities linked to our topic, the children will have free access to resources for painting, collage and junk modelling. We will be learning plenty of songs as well as using percussion instruments alongside our singing. The children are enjoying using our little stage in the garden.



Technology

We will provide plenty of opportunities for developing skills with technology both inside and outside the classroom, with the children developing use of handheld technology such as iPads, programmable equipment and role-play resources.

Physical Education

The children will have two PE sessions each week. One session will be with our sports coach, Keely and the other with me. This term we will have a focus on group games and large ball skills. They don't need a PE kit but it is always a good idea to make sure your child is wearing comfy shoes to school.

House Keeping

- We are unable to have water cups this term. Please send your child in with a named water bottle. We can top these up throughout the day if need be.
- Please make sure your child's clothing is named, especially jumpers. This makes it much easier to get clothing back to the right person! I always have a supply of some permanent markers if you ever need to borrow one.
- Please let me know if someone different is collecting your child.
- At the end of the day, we try and tidy our garden for the next day. Please do not play out there at the end of the day.
- Spare clothes kept on pegs is very helpful in case your child has an accident or gets mucky.
- We go outside in all weather. Please make sure your child is dressed for the elements. If they come in wellies, bringing a pair of shoes as well is helpful as they sometimes start to get sore feet.

- Please keep toys at home. It's not much fun if they go missing and there are lots of lovely things to play with at school. I am happy for the children to bring books in from home to share. We have a box they can put them in and I read them to the class.
- If you are interested in being a class rep, please let me know – it is a great way to get to know the school and other parents.

Forest School Sessions

Unfortunately we are unable to use public transport for trips this term.

We are however, incredibly fortunate to have Hampstead Heath on our doorstep!

We will have regular Forest School mornings on the Heath.

This year I am doing my Forest School training, so I will be especially keen to utilise

this learning! Each session will have a specific focus as well as allowing the

children to play and connect with nature. They will run for 2 hours, including our walk to and from the

Heath. If you are able to help with our sessions, please sign up on the sheet stuck to our door. The sessions will run from 9.00 – 11.00. This means we will be back in time for lunch, so no packed lunch is required.

I have purchased waterproof trousers for all of the children but they will need a jacket and wellies/boots for our sessions.

Forest School Sessions on the Heath -

- Wednesday 30th September
- Friday 16th October
- Thursday 5th November
- Wednesday 18th November
- Thursday 3rd December



Important Dates

- Infant Christmas party – Tuesday 17th December. This is normally held in the school hall with all of the infant classes. This year we will have these in classes. More information will follow closer to the time.

Let's all keep our fingers crossed that we can have stay and play sessions and trips in the spring term.

If there is anything that you would like further information about, please feel free to ask.

It can be a little busy in the mornings, but I'm often around after school when it's a bit quieter.

I am looking forward to supporting your child in what is sure to be an exciting and busy first term!

Best wishes,

Beth Cleine

Reception Class Teacher