



Live • Love • Learn - Littletown

Reception Spring Term 2023 Information

We hope you had a lovely safe Christmas with your family and we also hope you enjoyed sharing your child's Tapestry with them and your close family, to celebrate their learning last term. We are looking forward to this new term and starting our engaging Fairy Tale topic.

Literacy

In literacy we will be continuing with our daily Read Write Inc sessions to support children's reading and writing as well as our daily handwriting. Children are taught in phonic ability groups across the year group. We will continue to upload levelled phonic activities on Tapestry at the end of each week as well as supporting materials and videos being available on the school website. Reading books continue to be changed every Friday.

Children will continue to have access to a range of writing materials for free writing including books, cards, lists, invitations and letters. If you are writing with your child at home please ensure they are holding their pencil correctly and firmly. Please also encourage writing in lowercase letters apart from at the start of their name. We will spend lots of time this term developing their listening skills and language through storytelling, small world play and role play.

Please record any book reading and reading activities, including learning sounds, in your child's Reading Record. The expectation is for parents to record in the book at least 4 times a week and staff check the Reading Record once a week when your child changes their book. You can just write 'book', 'sounds' or more if needed e.g. if your child has found the book tricky or is struggling with a particular sound. **Book Packs (the plastic wallet) with the reading record and reading book) must be in school every day.**

In school we have phonic lessons daily alongside supporting the children with their sounds. However, in order to make progress with their reading and writing, children need to read regularly and practise learning their new phonic sounds at home. For support on how to pronounce letter sounds please have a look at <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/learn-to-read-phonics/>.

Maths

In maths we will be continuing recognising and ordering numerals 1-20 and beyond and working on knowing 1 more and 1 less of any number. We will be learning to add and subtract to 5 then 10, using objects and number lines for support to solve simple maths problems. We will be looking at weight, length and height and comparing sizes.

We have done a lot of work in the Autumn term counting and reciting numbers, teaching children to count with 1:1 correspondence; saying a number name after each object is counted. At home please ensure they are touching items when they are counting and ask them 'how many' when they have finished. We have also spent lots of time 'subitising' (seeing the amount without counting). Children should be able to subitise amounts to 5. Around the home continue counting e.g. stairs, teddies, food and look at numbers in the environment when you are out and about or around the home. Play games, puzzles, sing number songs or listen to number rhymes on the BBC Children's Radio (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-songs-index/zhwdgwx?scrlybrkr>).

Our Topic - Traditional Tales & Fairy Tales

Welcome to the magical world of fairy tales! Was the Big Bad Wolf really so bad? How many bowls of porridge did Goldilocks eat? Let's find out more about our favourite stories, and discover some new ones. This term, we'll play imaginatively with familiar and new characters, telling stories and making up new endings. We will look at different character types, and decide whether our favourite characters are 'goodies' or 'baddies'! Using different materials and shapes, we'll build castles and bridges. We'll read lots of stories and look at the ingredients that go into a fantastic fairy tale. We'll be brave explorers and hunt for missing items from fairy tales, make potions and create homes for woodland fairies.

We will be reading a range of Fairy Tales but our key stories will be The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Gingerbread Man and Red Riding Hood. To support our literacy we will retell stories, write simple stories, and create story maps to retell familiar tales, labelling characters and story scenes. In maths, we will be counting beans and measuring capacity and ordering key story items like Jack's beanstalks and the Bears' chairs. We will be teaching and using the correct vocabulary; tall, taller, tallest, short, shorter, shortest and full, half full and empty.

Help your child prepare for their project

Reading fairy tales can sweep us away into a fantastical world. Why not visit your local library together to read lots of different versions? You could also watch children's films on this theme and discuss the different types of characters. Alternatively, you could use toys to retell favourite fairy tales.

PSHE (including Relationship, Sex and Health Education)

Dreams and Goals: During the first half term we will be learning about the importance of perseverance and staying motivated when trying new challenges. We will choose our own goals to achieve!

Healthy Me: During the second half term we will be learning about how to keep healthy, we will be discussing exercise, healthy foods and the need for sleep.

Key reminders

Outdoor Classroom: Outdoor Classroom will continue every week on Fridays. If we ever need to change our plans for outdoor classroom because of special events, children should continue to come in non-uniform on Fridays. As we are in Winter please ensure your child has appropriate warm & waterproof clothing to wear outside.

Book Bags: Please bring book bags to school every day (with your child's Reading Record and reading book).

Tapestry Learning Journey: As you are aware Tapestry Learning Journeys are updated at the beginning of each term. Thank you to parents who have added photos, videos, and comments about their child's learning. We have seen children reading, writing, dancing, singing, counting, growing and lots of holiday fun. If you are having trouble accessing Tapestry to view your child's learning please see your child's teacher.

Water Bottles: Please ensure your child has a bottle of water (not juice) in the classroom for drinking throughout the day. They may have juice in their lunchbox but no fizzy drinks.

Packed Lunches: We have peanut allergies in school so we ask that no children have nuts or nut based snacks/spreads in their lunchboxes. We are a healthy school and ask that children do not bring in chocolates or sweets for lunch.

School Dinners: Please ensure you book your child's school dinner by Friday midnight for the following week. If your child does not eat enough school lunch we will send a note home to inform you.

Medication: Please let us know if your child has to take any prescribed medication at school. There is a green form for you to fill in so that we can administer it. We can only give prescribed medication and the medication must have the prescription label on. Please phone the school if your child is off sick. If you have a medical appointment please let the office know.

Birthdays: If it is your child's birthday they can come to school in their home clothes. Please do not bring cake/sweets in to share.

Toys: We ask that toys/valuables are not brought into school.

Junk Materials: We are desperate for yogurt pots, small boxes (not cereal size boxes) and cardboard tubes (not toilet rolls). Please ensure they are clean because the children use these to build models with.

Key dates for the Autumn term

Friday 10 February	Break up for 1 week half term holiday
Monday 20 February	Return to school
Week Beginning 27 February	Parents Evening (information to follow)
Friday 31 March	End of term
Monday 17 April	Return to school

Thank you for your support,
Miss Croft, Mrs Katene & Mrs Hawkins