

Spring 2

Monday 28th February
- Friday 8th April

Will you read me a story?

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.



Welcome back!

Within this newsletter you will find information about what your child will be learning between now and the Easter break. We will be working through objectives in the 'Development Matters' document and they will be brought to life through our topics of 'Will you read me a story'.

We hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Cole (EYFS Leader).

Library Books

Library books will be changed by Reception staff every fortnight on a Friday. Please keep the books in the folder and bring them back in on the date written on the front.

We hope that lots of families will take this opportunity to enjoy a wide range of books and foster a love of reading.

Reminders

All children should bring a water bottle to school every day please, especially as the weather continues to get warmer. Water bottles should only contain plain water and must be named.

Children should also bring a sun hat and wear sun cream if we get any early sunny weather, our outdoor area gets very hot.

All belongings should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Key Dates

World Book Day – Thursday 3rd March

Red Nose Day – Friday 18th March

Break up for Easter – Friday 8th April

The school day begins at **8:40am** and finishes at **3:15pm**. Arriving on time is essential.



Tapestry

We love to see the learning and lovely activities your child experiences at home. Please remember to upload photographs, videos and comments to your child's Tapestry online learning journal. Also, please remember to check your child's Tapestry account every week for new observations and press the 'like' button to let us know you have seen it. If you have any problems logging on, please speak to a member of staff.



Homework

New homework is set weekly every Friday. Children have a week to complete this, to be returned by the following Friday. Sometimes homework will be a physical hand in, and sometimes we will require an upload to Tapestry. There is an expectation that homework is completed weekly in Reception. It enhances the learning that takes place in school and fosters good habits. We will be in contact with parents who do not support their children with homework.



Will you read me a story?

This half term, we'll play imaginatively with a model castle and small world characters. We'll 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.. Contemporary versions of fairy tales will inspire us to write stories, and we'll use 'Talk 4 Writing' and story maps to retell familiar tales.

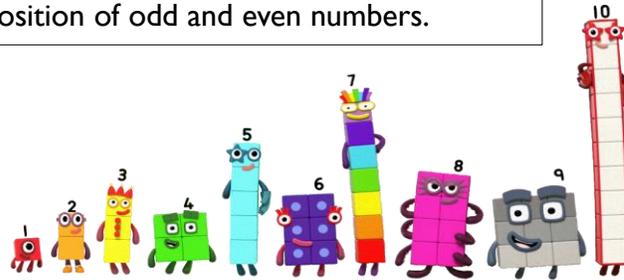
Fairy Tales Texts

We will be sharing and reading lots of well known fairy tales such as
The Ginger Bread Man
The Three Billy Goats Gruff
The Little Red Hen
The Three Little Pigs
Goldilocks and The Three Bears

We will also be introducing some more unusual tales such as 'Rumpelstiltskin', and 'The Elves and the Shoemaker.' To support your child at home you could read and watch a range of fairy tales and discuss what is happening in the story.

Maths

This half term children will explore symmetrical patterns, linking this to 'doubles'. They will begin to explore the composition of numbers within 10, in order to learn number bonds to 10 off by heart. Children will become more familiar with the counting pattern beyond 20 and also explore the composition of odd and even numbers.



Literacy

We will continue to work within Phase 3 of Letters and Sounds, learning how to read and write words with single sounds and more complex digraphs. Children will be encouraged to write short captions that are spelled in ways that match their phonics learning. We will also aim to complete a longer piece of story writing.



Physical Education

Reception children have P.E. on a Thursday. Children must come to school dressed in their kit — **trainers, plain black jogging bottoms, plain red t-shirt and plain black hoodie or sweatshirt.**

No jewellery should be worn for P.E., earrings should be removed or only be worn if parents have signed an agreement to say they understand the risks.

Reading

Reading with your child is **so important!** Please read with your child their school phonics book at least 3 times a week and make a comment in their yellow reading record. Any reading you can do together to support our fairy tale topic too, would also be beneficial.

Expressive Arts and Design

This half term children will be encouraged to develop their own creative ideas to make characters from familiar stories. We may even meet some well known characters and plan and produce our own traps to capture them. The children will help the adults to enhance our role play area using materials and props linked to our topic. We will also learn how to sing The Three Pigs rap, Goldilocks' rap and perform The Three Billy Goats Gruff story with actions.



Personal, Social and Emotional Wellbeing

We will be talking lots during circle time about feelings using carefully chosen stories. We will also use fairy tales to think about the behaviour of the goodies and baddies and the consequences for the other characters. We will make links to our own behaviour and the effect it has on others.



Physical Development/Health & Self Care

Children will be encouraged to use a tripod grip when writing, and show good control when forming letters and numbers. When playing and during P.E. they will be using their bodies to move in a range of ways and focusing on gymnastic type activities. We will also focus on using equipment safely when we are building outside or making models such as a bridge for The Billy Goats.



Understanding the World

Using the story of the 'Gingerbread Man' we will investigate the features of our own environment and how they vary. The children will be encouraged to think about why the gingerbread man needed the fox to help him cross the river and to investigate concepts such as dissolving, floating and sinking using biscuits and liquids. Linked to the story of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' we will plant pots of grass and talk about what they might need to grow. We will place these pots in different conditions and encourage the children to see what happens. Once some of the grass seeds have grown we look again at the pots and decide which the goats would have preferred to eat discussing the best conditions for growth. We will use the Billy Goats Gruff story as a stimulus for a STEM activity where we challenge the children to make a bridge that the goats can cross the river on and that the troll can hide beneath.