

11th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring Term! We hope you had a good Christmas break. We would like to say thank you for the amazing support you have given us over the past term. The class has settled beautifully, and we are thrilled with their progress.



We are presently working through a topic about toys based on the presents the children received at Christmas. Last week, they had an opportunity to share a favourite toy with everyone. They created a beautiful painting of their toy and we have been sorted the toys according to different criteria, including different materials that the toys were made of and other criteria, such as being colourful, battery powered or cuddly. We will be learning a poem about a toy box (your child may soon be able to perform it for you!) The children will also be learning about toys in the past. We will be looking at old teddy bears too and this will lead us to looking at real bears. We will be learning about different kinds of bear, bear facts and talk about the habitats in which they live. We will be using the book 'Doggy', to support our work here.



This term we have our 'One School Many Cultures' Day on Monday 30th January. We will be looking at China and celebrating Chinese New Year. Parents will be invited in during the afternoon to help us with our work here. In the second half of the term, we will be looking forward to science week in March. This is a whole school event and is generally a fun week where children have opportunities to work together in mixed aged groups. We are hoping to focus on 'Our Amazing Body' this year. A letter will be sent out about this later in the term. We also will celebrate World Book Day and a Parents Evening is planned.



The children are working well through our 'Read, Write, Inc' programme of work. Please could you continue to share with your child, the books that they are bringing home each week. They need to be shared at least three times a week and diaries signed at least three times a week. Also, please continue to go through the little green or yellow speed sound books. The children are starting to recognise the sounds much faster now and this is supporting their blending of words. The children will now be bringing home green or red story bag books, please watch out for them as they are only placed into book bags after children have rehearsed the text at school. There will also be a rainbow book and story book to read together.

The weather has turned cold, and we are trying to encourage children to zip up their own coats. Some children are finding this quite difficult, and we would really appreciate any extra help you could give children at home to be able to do this. We have also noticed that children are finding it difficult to turn clothes the right way around and from inside out. They are putting shoes on the wrong feet and finding buttons and zips difficult. To support this, we are going to have some 'dressing lessons' in the next term, encouraging children to put their clothes on correctly themselves. Please could you make sure that children are dressing themselves independently at home, which will support our work here. We will be assessing the children on whether they are able to get themselves dressed as part of our assessment of the Early Years Curriculum.

Don't forget if you have any concerns, just pop into the office to make an appointment or you can usually speak to us when you drop off or pick up.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Reception Team

