

# RECEPTION TOPIC

## NEWSLETTER

### Summer Term 1 2026

#### ***Down on the farm (5 weeks)***



This half term, the children will develop their learning through the theme of 'Down on the farm', exploring farm life, the animals we see and the special jobs farmers do. We will be reading various texts based around farms, including fiction and non-fiction texts. Our exciting starter to the topic will be a visit to Nick's Farm; a local farm which will allow the children to take part in hands-on experiences to help them better understand the role of a farmer and the care that animals on the farm need. The visit will also support the learning back at school as children will not only write about the farm visit, describing the animals they saw, but also gain an understanding of animals and their young, linking to the Science objectives as we look at life cycles, naming baby animals and classifying animals.

The role-play area will transform into a farm shop and café and allow children to develop those crucial speaking and listening skills as they participate in turn taking and creative role-play with their peers. They will have the opportunity to write lists, develop their maths skills by adding together items bought in the shop and using coins to pay for them.

In Maths, we will be learning about numbers to 20 and beyond. Children will become more familiar with numbers beyond 10 and the pattern of numbers to 20 and beyond. We will be completing practical number problems to answer 'how many now?' questions relating to our farm topic.

In Phonics, we will be reviewing the phase 3 graphemes previously taught, focusing on the accurate spelling of words containing these graphemes. We will also be learning to read and spell CVCC, CCVC, CCVCC, CCCVC and CCCVCC words. Weekly home learning sheets will be sent home to consolidate this.

#### ***Supporting at Home***

Reading with your child is key to help develop their love of reading and continue to practice those fundamental skills for them to read themselves.

Books will continue to be changed on a Monday and a Thursday. Phonics home learning will be sent home each Friday to consolidate that week's learning.

**Uniform Reminder** – Please can I remind you that our uniform is a navy blue. This means that if your child is wearing any accessories such as hair bobbles, bows etc then they are to be navy blue please.

Now that the weather is getting warmer, children may wear a sunhat which needs to be navy blue or the one with our school logo on. Please note, children are NOT permitted to wear sunglasses in school.

Please keep a look out for a School Spider survey which will be sent out in the coming days regarding application of sun cream. You may provide your own sun cream and give permission for staff within school to apply this to your child when necessary. We also have school suncream which you can give permission for us to apply to your child as and when necessary.

**Morning Fruit Snack** – Please could you ensure your child brings their morning fruit snack in a **separate container** to their lunchbox so it can be accessed easily. The children place their fruit snack in a separate trolley when they come to school so that it is easily accessible when it is morning fruit time.

**Painting aprons** – Thank you to those who have brought in a painting apron. Just a polite reminder, if you could please send in a named apron that can remain in school for your child to use during art activities.

## ***Diary Dates***

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April** – Reception class visit to Nick's Farm. Drop off and pick up times remain as normal to and from school. Children to wear school uniform and appropriate footwear.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – End of half term

Any additions to these will be sent out via School Spider/Tapestry as and when necessary.

Many thanks,

Mrs Darnell