

7th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term and enjoyed some sunshine and relaxation!

New Topic

Our new topic is '**Who Lives in a Rock Pool?**'. There's an exciting world just below the surface of the rock pool. Which creatures live near the sea? Why do crabs have shells? We'll find out the answers to these questions and more in this project about the seashore.



This half term, we'll hopefully go on a class visit to the beach to visit the fascinating world of the British seashore. We'll collect 'treasures', create art and explore the creatures living at the beach. Back at school, we'll use our senses to investigate man-made and natural seashore objects, including litter. We'll also write postcards about our visit to the seashore. Using our art skills, we'll draw seabirds, create beach art and decorate shells. It might get messy when we explore the texture of sand and create a fantastic sand art display! We'll listen carefully to stories and poems about the seashore. By reading non-fiction books, we'll find out lots of interesting facts, discovering which animals live in a rock pool and what they eat. In our 'seashore shop', we'll take on different roles and think about how we speak to each other. Using our mathematical skills, we'll count jellyfish, solve problems and double and halve shells, ice creams and sea creatures! We'll also measure handprints and footprints in the sand.

Help your child prepare for their project

Rock pools are remarkable places. Why not visit the library to find out all about your favourite creature that lives at the seashore? You could also create fantastic seashore collages using recycled materials. Alternatively, make a miniature 'beach in a box' using sand, pebbles, shells and toys.

KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts)

This half term the KIRFS are **to learn by heart addition and subtraction facts up to 5.**

This involves knowing the answers to questions such as $3+2$, $5-3$, $2+1$, $5-2$, $4-0$, $0+3$ etc. I will send home a list of calculations you can practise together- learning by heart means after practising your child now them without using fingers or toes or counting on in their head. If they can secure these facts now, then as they move into Yr 1 and 2 they can then apply it to addition facts with teen numbers and larger numbers.

Forest school and PE

PE Days: Tuesday (outdoor PE) and Wednesday (outdoor PE) with coaches

Forest school: Wednesday afternoons

Please send your child in on Tuesday in their PE kit and Wednesday in PE kit/ tracksuit bottoms/ leggings that they can wear for outside PE then in the afternoon for our Forest School sessions.

Helpers- we are allowed parents in to school to help outside at Forest school, please let me know if you are free Wednesday afternoons for Forest school 1-3pm and have a dba check.

Summer

As the weather is warming up please send in named sunhats as our outside space can get quite warm. When it is warm enough for sun cream please apply some before school as we are not allowed to put sun cream on the children. They can put cream on themselves, if needed after lunch, but needs to be in a named bottle in their bag. Don't forget to send in water bottles every day as some children seem to be forgetting them.



Reading

We are now grouping most of the class for guided reading sessions, where they will read with an adult in a small group looking at words, layout of books, characters and read both fiction and non-fiction. Sometimes they may play reading games, all to develop and broaden their reading skills. We will write in their diary to let you know when they read as a group. We endeavour to read with the children individually when we can. We will change the children's reading books each week. Please write in their diary when you read with your child at home.

Tapestry

Don't forget to look on Tapestry to see what your child and the class have been up to. We will be using our focus children for observations but will still document wow moments or class events. Remember you can add anything you do at home too, it's lovely to see what they get up to away from school.

Thank you for your ongoing support, let's enjoy our last half term in Reception!

Kind Regards
Helen Ford