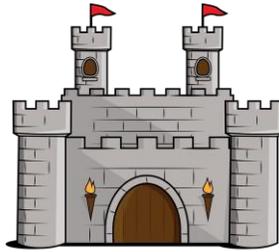


Foundation Stage Overview (Reception Class)
Spring Term 2018
Topic: Knights and Castles / New Life



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of a new term at school. We had a wonderful end of the first term with our Christmas performances, parties and pantomime and we would all like to say a big thank you for the wonderful cards and presents we received.

This letter will explain what we will be doing over the next term and how you can support your child at home.

A few reminders –

- 😊 Could you please ensure that any clothing is clearly labelled as we have had lots of lost hats, jumpers and gloves, it makes finding the owners much easier if we can easily see a name.
- 😊 If you have changed your home or mobile phone number recently, please ensure that you have let the office know your new numbers, as well as an emergency number, in case we need to contact you quickly.
- 😊 We will be having a parent's evening during this term - (further information to follow), however if you need to speak to us about anything then please make an appointment anytime.
- 😊 We will continue to send homework every Friday.
- 😊 Please remember that the home/school record book is for you to record your comments on your child's reading as well as us. Reading at home is vital for your child's progress. Although we appreciate that it can be difficult on a daily basis to hear your child read or for you to read to them, it will reap rewards in the future.
- 😊 We appreciate the water bottles that are sent into school for the children. It is so much more convenient for them to be able to access a drink that they need independently.
- 😊 This term we will also be introducing the children to Phonics Bug. This is an online computer programme where children can read books that have been allocated to them. This helps to develop reading skills as well as providing a different medium to promote interest and enjoyment. Your child will have their own user name and password in order to log on. Further information will be given shortly.

Communication, Language and Literacy:

This term our focus will primarily be on Knights and Castles / New Life. Throughout this there will also be some time spent on the Chinese New Year celebrations and of course Easter. Children will sequence, re-write and recount on what they have listened to or found out, writing for a variety of purposes and in a variety of styles. The children will continue working on their phonic sounds and blends and match sounds to letter names. They will continue to read individually and in groups. Every week the children will be extending their writing skills, by writing about their news, writing labels and speech bubbles and writing sentences to go with pictures.

At home: It would be useful if you could continue to read and learn words with your child and encourage/read stories with them.

Mathematical Development:

Our focus will be on reinforcing number skills to 20. The children will explore simple addition and subtraction through practical tasks. We will revisit 2D and 3D shapes and use appropriate language to describe them. We will explore length, height and weight. The children will be introduced to money and be able to recognise smaller units of change and begin to use them 1p, 2p, 5p.

At home: Please ensure children are confident to count and write numbers correctly to at least 10. Encourage them to pick out objects that are different shapes and discuss measuring. Do simple cooking tasks that involve children weighing and measuring with you. Also when out shopping talk to the children about the coins used to pay for goods.

Creative Development:

This half-term our focus will be on designing and making castles from junk modelling, wooden bricks, Lego or large Duplo bricks outside. We are also looking at the patterns on banners, flags and shields in the castle. We will role play the different characters that lived in a castle, from the King and Queen, to the Jester and the servants. Using puppets and small world toys we will think about a day in the life of a castle.

Next half-term our focus will be new life through Jack and the Beanstalk and Easter where we will be looking at growing beanstalks and other plants. Children will listen to and join in songs and play musical instruments.

Physical Development:

We will be looking at co-ordination through focusing on the skills a knight, a jester and other people in the castle needed. Children will be working together to make circle dances related to medieval times and growth. Forest school activities will continue each Friday.

At home: Help to develop co-ordination skills, for example, set up a target to throw ball or bean bags into.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Our History focus will be looking at how children's lives were different in the castle. We will be using non-fiction books to find out information about castles and knights. Outside we may be making a map for the way to the Dragons Den, or working with our friends to build a castle.

We will find out about Chinese New year and Easter. We will continue to use our computer skills in the ICT suite to complete simple art programmes and introduce the Bee-Bots.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

We will focus on concentrating and staying motivated on tasks this term. We will also work on taking turns and sharing. We encourage children to select and use activities and resources independently.

At home: It would be useful for you to play games and show children that we all need to share and we don't always win. Ensure children understand that it is having a go that is important.

We hope you find this information useful. Please do not hesitate to come and discuss with us any aspects you are unsure about.

Thank you for all your support

The Reception Team