



## Reception 2023/24 - Spring Newsletter

Dear families,

Happy New Year! It was lovely to see so many of you at the recent Phonics Workshop. I hope you found it a really useful morning. I hope you find the information below useful.

### Staffing:

Class teacher: Sarah Collett

Class TA: Millie Jauncey

Student Teacher: Olivia Hearn (Not at HH this term - currently at another school)

PPA/leadership time (Wednesday AM): Genine Lines

Phase Leader: Suzanne Thomas

### Important Dates:

15/01/24 - Phonics Workshop

18/01/24 - Torch Walk (after school)

24/01/24 - Vision Screening

25/01/24 – Culture Day and Forest School

29/01/24 - Inset Day

6/02/24 - Safer Internet Day

8/02/24 - Lunar New Year Celebration

### Curriculum

Our topic this term is, 'Starry Night'. We will be looking at lots of fantastic books such as: The Night Pirates, How to Catch a Star and The Great Race. We will also celebrate Lunar New Year, look at space travel and think about the difference between night and day.

### Phonics

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



I recommend that you look at the videos on pronunciation. This will help you to feel confident when supporting your children at home with their reading.

### Reading and Homework

It is important that your child practises their reading at home. We recommend reading every day for 5 –10 minutes, but if your child is tired or upset then of course, it's fine to miss a day. We want to keep reading as a fun and calming part of the children's day.

Phonics books are swapped every Thursday after their 3<sup>rd</sup> reading practice session of the week. Please ensure that all phonics books and diaries are brought in each day. Sharing books are swapped on a Tuesday.

Please keep a record of any reading your child does independently or shared and let us know in the comments section how they have got on. We expect children to read or be read to every day.

Phonics homework will be uploaded to Purple Mash each Friday. This is so you know which new phonemes/graphemes your child has learned that week and it gives you words to practise with your child. It also has the correct letter formation rhymes and any Tricky Words that children have learned that week.

If your child practise writing their tricky words and brings these in, I will reward their effort with a sticker.

### Communication

Open and honest communication is key to supporting your child and I want to ensure that we work together for the benefit of your child and family. I am always available at the end of the day for a quick chat, and you can also contact me via the school office who will forward me any emails and phone call requests. I will ensure that I respond to any emails within 3 working days.

### Other:

Just a reminder if you have not already returned Forest School clothes, please send in waterproof trousers/puddle suit, wellies and spare socks to keep at school. We go outside in all weather, so it is important that the children have the correct clothing to keep them warm and dry, including hats and gloves. We will keep their wellies under our covered outside area so they can also use them in the garden during the week.



I hope you have found this useful,

Kind regards,

Sarah Collett

Reception Teacher

