



### Reception News



#### What we have been learning

This half term we became Gardening Investigators and thoroughly enjoyed planting and caring for lots of different things – beans, Gladioli bulbs and cress. We read lots of lovely stories together, including 'Jasper's Beanstalk', 'That's Not a Daffodil', 'The Tiny Seed' and 'Oliver's Vegetables'. We have been applying our phonics skills and practising our writing by keeping bean diaries. We had to look very carefully at our bean plants and write a sentence to describe what we could see. We also applied our maths learning, using cubes to measure the height of our beanstalks. We became artists by using watercolours to create an observational painting of daffodils and by using oil pastels to re-create a Van Gogh Sunflower painting. This week the children will be bringing home their own seed packet with some sunflower seeds inside for you to plant at home – happy planting!

#### Supporting your child's learning at home

Please continue to support your child's reading at home by reading both reading books; practising the tricky words; and practising the sounds. We have also been exploring the numbers 11-20. Any extra practice at home recognising these numbers, ordering them and counting out objects would really help to consolidate your child's learning.

#### Upcoming Learning

Next half term our topic will be 'Amazing Animals'. We will continue to learn about lifecycles and will care for our own class minibeasts. We will also use the story 'Handa's Surprise' as a starting point to explore another country and compare animals on the savannah to animals in a British farm. We will also go exploring on our first class trip.

Thank you again for your continued support with all that we do, it is greatly appreciated. Have a wonderful break.  
Miss Barrett, Mr Lawal and the Reception Team.

#### Note from Miss Barrett

"I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their support over the past 2 and a half years. It has been an absolute pleasure working with you and your children. I wish you all the best for the future."

### Year 1 News



#### What we have been learning

This term the children have been learning all about the lives and journeys of five explorers from various eras: Ibn Battuta, Captain Cook, Roald Amundsen, Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Sunita Williams. We began our topic by making binoculars, looking at a world map and making passports. By the end of the topic children had enjoyed learning about historical figures that lived across several different centuries and the children were particularly fascinated by the hardships faced by ancient travellers who had to sleep under the stars, as they journeyed from one place to the next. The children imagined what it would be like to sleep under a tent each night, and concluded that explorers in the past were very brave! In science children have enjoyed investigating properties of materials and learning new vocabulary such as 'absorbent' and 'non-absorbent'. On other science news, we had spectacular fun visiting the Science Dome! We have also worked really hard to write sentences using adjectives and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s! Finally, everybody had a very enjoyable World Book Day and at the end of term we visited our amazing secondary school to watch a spectacular musical!

#### Upcoming Learning

We are really excited to start our new topic 'All Things Grow'. We will be introducing children to a wide range of plants and observing changes over time. Children will work scientifically by making careful observations grouping and comparing evidence from the natural world. In Geography we will be taking four different world journeys which look at coastal, rainforest, dry desert and world city locations. In English we will be learning to sequence events to write short narratives. In maths we will be ordering and comparing numbers to 100 and consolidating our multiplication skills.

We look forward to seeing you all next term. Please read regularly with your children over the holidays and take advantage of visiting your local library! Wishing you all a beautiful Easter.

## Year 2 News



### What we have been learning

In Year 2 we have been hard at work investigating and researching different topics. In English we have been researching penguins and moths, creating informative and persuasive pieces of writing to help raise awareness and support for them. We have been looking at different features such as emotive language, rhetorical questions and using similes in our writing. For Maths we have looked at a range of areas such as shapes and their properties, time to the nearest five minute and most recently, using the four operations to help us effectively solve problems.

In computing we have been learning how to create pictograms and tally charts which resulted in us going out of the classroom on bug hunts and colour hunts to collect various data.

History has had us researching the recent past and comparing 1950s beach holidays to present day beach holidays and DT has had us taste testing pizza toppings and designing our own pizzas which we made at the end of term.

In addition to all this fun learning, children have celebrated world book day by having a fun day of reading different stories, creating art based on literature they love and talking about their favourite stories. We also went on a trip to watch High School Musical at the secondary school and the children wowed everyone with their amazing walking and behaviour and had an exciting session visiting the space dome when they visited Robert Clack.

### Upcoming Learning

In Summer 2 we will be continuing to develop our persuasive writing through adverts and also looking at instructional language. In Maths we will be looking at directional language and statistics as well as doing various recaps of prior learning. In Science we are going to be focusing on plants, we will be investigating the different parts of a plant, discussing what plants need to be healthy and carrying out an investigation within the classroom. Our theme in Geography will be 'Wonders of the World' where children will be learning about natural and man-made geographical features and drawing on skills learnt in Year 1. Finally, in Art we will be having a go at becoming printers and creating different pieces of art using this skill.

### Reminders

- No jewellery is allowed to be worn at school; this includes earrings.
- Please remember to name every item of clothing that your child brings into school, as they all look the same.
- Please continue to read regularly with your child (a minimum of three times a week). We love celebrating the children's reading efforts.
- Please look in your child's bookbag daily for any letters we may have given out. Any pictures that they have drawn are for you to keep at home.
- We have sent home PE kits to be washed. Please can these be returned to school on the first day back.
- Our Breakfast Club starts at 8 a.m. and costs £2.00 per day. Please bring your child to the usual school gate.
- Our After School Club starts straight after school and finishes at 5 p.m. It costs £4.00 per day.
- Reception parents – please continue to encourage your child to be more independent when getting dressed and undressed, including turning their clothes in the correct way. This extra practice helps to support the learning we are doing in school to be more independent in everyday tasks, such as getting ready for our PE lessons.

### Dates to Remember

15<sup>th</sup> April – Return to school

