

Reception Newsletter: 27.2.26



Spring Term 2

What a lovely first week back we have had. Everyone has settled well back into routine, and we are all enjoying the lighter mornings and seeing the sunshine more often!

Thank you for all the wonderful contributions in the children's home learning journals. It has been fantastic to see such amazing writing and thoughtful pictures, and to hear all about the different projects the children have completed linked to our 'Half term Green Challenge'.



We are so proud of the effort and creativity they have shown.

We will be collecting the journals back in on the 9th March.

Thank you again for your continued support at home.

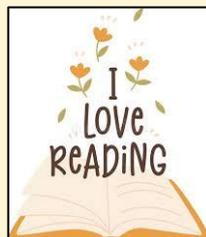
Phonics reviews

This week we have been conducting our half termly phonics assessment to review the progress the children have been making and be able to identify any gaps in learning we may need to recap and cover. The assessments make sure that the children are reading at a pace that they feel successful and confident, whilst developing a love of reading.

Your child may have a new ditty sheets or book and these will be modelled and practised within the new phonics groups this week.

Please continue to practise all the speed sounds, green words and red tricky words with your child before moving into the story sentences. Practising the green words regularly supports your child with their fluency in reading as they will begin to recognise these words in the sentences and begin to sight read some. We encourage Fred in your head and reading words they recognise without having to sound out if they are able to do this and rereading the sentences to support fluency too.

Once your child has read their story please ask the questions linked to the story to develop comprehension skills too.



Whitehouse Farm trip Friday 6th March

We were very excited to remind the children about our upcoming farm trip next week!

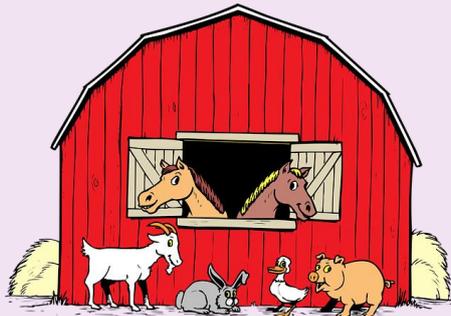
The weather forecast is looking like typical British weather, with a mixture of rainy and sunny spells, so please ensure your child wears their school uniform, PE trainers and a warm, showerproof coat. However, please keep an eye on the weather as we may need to think about wetsuits and wellies. Please can you make sure that your child has their wellies in school, so they are prepared.

If you requested a school packed lunch, this will be provided for your child on the day from the school kitchen. If not, please remember to send your child with a packed lunch, ideally in a disposable bag that can be thrown away along with any rubbish. (please remember no nuts).

Please ensure your child arrives at school promptly so our we have plenty of time to register everyone and check that we have everything we need before boarding the coach.

Thank you to all the parents who are supporting us on the farm trip - we really appreciate your help. Please can all volunteers meet at school at 9am for a quick briefing before we head off to the farm.

We are very much looking forward to a fun and memorable day!

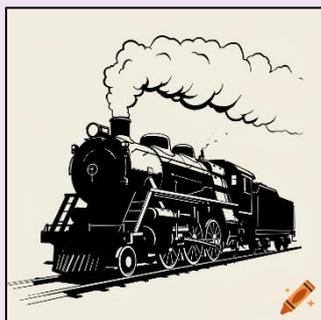


Stephenson Steam Railway Museum

We are also in the process of arranging our second trip to Stephenson Steam Railway Museum on the 6th May.

If any parents would like to volunteer to support us on this visit, please let your child's class teacher know.

Your continued support makes these experiences possible, and we are very grateful.

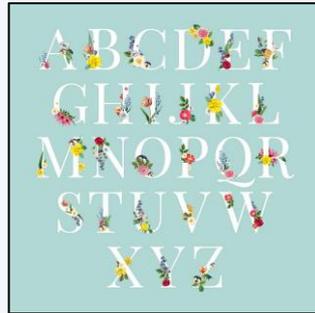


Capital Letters

This week in handwriting, we began introducing capital letters as part of getting ready to write simple sentences independently.

The children have learnt that capital letters are special letters we use at the beginning of a sentence and for names. Through songs, shared writing, and lots of practical activities, we are beginning to practise spotting capital letters, looking at the shapes of them, and understanding why they are important.

You can continue to support at home by encouraging your child to notice capital letters in books and helping them practise writing their own name with a capital letter at the start. We were so proud of how enthusiastic the children were about becoming confident writers!



Watercoloured painting

We have been very creative this week as we learnt how to use watercolours and discovered the different effects we could create using water, paintbrushes and paints.

The children explored how colours can blend and change, and experimented carefully with different techniques.

We painted some beautiful pictures and tried really hard drawing our own designs before carefully painting over them with watercolour paints.

We were so impressed with the children's focus, creativity and growing confidence as young artists.



You can support this learning at home by encouraging your child to experiment with painting using watercolours or even just water and a paintbrush on coloured paper or paving slabs outside. Talk about what happens when colours mix together or how adding more or less water changes the shade. You could also ask your child to draw a simple picture first and then carefully paint over it, just as we have been practising in school.

Parent Workshop 3-Outdoor learning

In a few weeks' time, we will be holding our final parent workshop of the year, focusing on outdoor learning.

This is a wonderful opportunity for one parent, carer or guardian to join their child for a session and hear all about the exciting things the children enjoy learning and doing in our outdoor environment.

We will be running four sessions in total:-

Parents of children in Mrs Gendler-Watson's class are invited to join their child on Tuesday 17th March at 2pm or Wednesday 18th March at 9:10am.

Parents of children in Miss Flitcroft's class can attend on Wednesday 18th March at 2pm or Thursday 19th March at 9:10am.

Unfortunately, due to numbers and to ensure high-quality outdoor learning can take place, we are only able to accommodate one adult per child, and only one session may be selected.

We will be sending out a form shortly for you to choose your preferred day and time.

Important diary dates and information

6.3.26 - Reception farm trip to Whitehouse Farm

17.3.26- 19.3.26- Reception Parent Workshop 3- Outdoor Learning

6.5.26- Reception Stephson Railway trip- More details to follow next term.

Reminders:

- **Home learning Journals-** We will be collecting the journals back in after half term on Monday 9th March.
- **Labelling items of clothing-** Please can you ensure all items of clothing including hats, gloves, scarfs, shoes, jumpers/cardigans and coats are labelled clearly with your child's name.
- **Reading folders-** Please ensure your child's reading folder is in their book bag every day. We change books usually on a Monday and Friday, but we sometimes get a chance to read with your child through the week too.
- **Cool Milk.** Please remember that your child/ children are not eligible for free school milk after their 5th birthday. If you would like your child to continue having milk at school, you must contact Cool Milk directly at least two weeks before their birthday.



The Reception Team 😊