

Reception Newsletter: 5.6.26



Welcome back!

Welcome back to our final half term in Reception! We hope everyone had a lovely break, and we have really enjoyed hearing all about the children's holiday adventures.

This week, we have been excited to begin our new topic, 'Festival Fun' and 'Changing me'

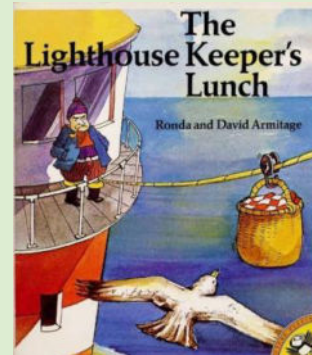
The children were thrilled to return to our newly set up provision areas, inspired by our local community. Outside, we've created a lighthouse and rock pooling area, and the children have loved making 'ice cream' in our mini parlour using shaving foam and coloured water.

Our outdoor kitchen has been very busy too, with chefs taking orders and cooking up pizzas and pasta! We have also enjoyed recreating singing and dancing on our outdoor stage, just like some of the children saw at the Whitley Bay Carnival over the bank holiday weekend.

We have been exploring our local area using Google Earth and maps, looking at familiar landmarks and sharing special places we enjoy visiting, such as St Mary's Lighthouse, Spanish City, the arcades and Waves swimming pool. This has linked beautifully to our focus story, *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*. The children have been inspired to draw their own maps and were amazed to find our school and even their homes on Google Maps.

As the term continues, we will build on this learning by exploring different habitats around the world, comparing environments and seasons. Our new classroom habitat areas have already sparked lots of curiosity and discussion about where animals live and why climates differ. We have even started building our own "Little Whitley Bay" using Lego!

There is lots of exciting learning ahead—what a wonderful way to start our final half term.



Maths

In Maths this week, the children have been developing their understanding of counting and why we count—to find out “how many” there are altogether.

We have been revisiting the idea that the last number we say tells us the total, and the children have been practising their counting skills through lots of practical, hands-on activities.

They have loved using different strategies, such as counting on from a given number and spotting missing numbers in the counting sequence, as well as exploring the patterns in numbers beyond 20.

A real highlight has been the children taking on the role of the teacher, confidently showing our class puppet (and any grown-ups nearby!) how to count carefully and accurately.

It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they explain their thinking and demonstrate their skills with such enthusiasm.

How you can help at home:

You can support your child by encouraging lots of counting in everyday situations.

For example,

- Count steps as you walk, toys as you tidy them away, or pieces of fruit at snack time.
- Ask your child, “How many are there altogether?” and remind them that the last number they say tells them the total.
- You can also practise counting on from different numbers (e.g. “start at 7 and keep going”) and spotting missing numbers when counting.
- Singing number songs and counting beyond 20 together is a great way to build confidence.
- Your child might even enjoy being the teacher and showing you or a favourite toy how to count carefully!



Important diary dates and information

16.6.26- Rec, yr 1 sports day (2-3pm)

18.6.26- Rockpool School visitor to Reception class- please see Parentpay

30.6.26 - New to Year One, Meet the Teacher evening 3.30-4.30pm

1.7.26- Whole school transition day.

3.7.26- Summer Fair- 3:30pm

8.7.26- Reports sent out

17.7.26- School closes for summer Holidays

1.9.26- Teacher training day

2.9.26- First day of Year 1 😊

Reminders:

- **School Dinners** - Please remember to have a quick chat with your child each morning about what they might like for their school dinner. This helps them feel more confident when making their choice in school. We also gently encourage children to try new foods, helping them to develop a healthy and varied diet.
- **Home learning Journals- Thank you for all the lovely journal entries this week.** We will be collecting the journals in on Monday 1st June.
- **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. **Please can we remind parents/ carers to record in their child's journal when you have read with your child at home too.**
- **Labelling items of clothing-** Please can you ensure all items of clothing including sun hats, shoes, jumpers/cardigans and coats are labelled clearly with your child's name.
- **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.



Southridge First School
'Proud to Make a Positive Impact'

Have a lovely half term holiday.

The Reception Team 😊