



Reception Newsletter: Summer Term, Week 2

Welcome back to school for our final term in Reception!

This week's Phonics sounds:



Don't forget to use your Phonics keyrings to practise reading and writing these sounds.

In English, we started learning a new Talk for Writing story called Farmer Duck.

We set the scene by creating a very messy farm in the playroom. We used role play to capture the children's imagination, help them understand the story and identify the characters feelings. The children played the role of farmer duck, while the teacher turned into the lazy farmer. Later the children learnt more about the story through a video of the story and even Farmer Duck yoga.

In Maths, we looked at counting on from an amount. We used number tracks and objects to practise accurate jumping onto one square at a time. The children learnt the importance of counting after the first jump. The children were encouraged to explain their calculation using the words **first, then, now**. First, I had 6 apples, then I found 3 more, now I have 9.

Last week we introduced the topic of money where we discussed the name of coins and their value. You might want to play this game at home for further practice:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/money/coins-game>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/money/toy-shop-money>

In **Forest School** we enjoyed spotting the changes in nature with lots of bluebells brightening the area. We all completed a still life drawing of a tree. We focused on texture of the bark using a variety of lines and marks.

In **Sanskrit** Mrs Wyatt popped in for our weekly session. We practised our prayer ready for our special performance in June.

In **PSHEE** we learnt about life cycles of humans. This leads us onto animals and creatures. We have little caterpillars coming to Reception soon, which will allow us to see the transformation into beautiful butterflies. Please see the letter at the end of this Newsletter with information about upcoming PSHEE lessons.

In **topic work** we have been learning where food comes from linked to the farm. Meat, eggs, milk, vegetables etc. We have been using this knowledge to role-play supermarkets.

Here are some photos of the children's learning this week:





Things to Remember

- We welcome a new little boy into RL- Rishi has settled in very well.
- Please clean out reading folders. Drawings and creations can be taken out to lighten the folders and keep them smart with easy access.
- As it starts to heat up this term, we welcome the summer uniform. Shorts and dresses once the sun decides to make an appearance! Girls can wear white tights if they are cold.
- RL class assembly- Tuesday 11th June.
- Sports Day- Friday 24th May
- Half term- Friday 24th May-3rd June
- Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school at all times for playtime showers.
- Please fill in the slip that is in your child's reading record to indicate which languages they are exposed to at home.
- **Wednesday 22nd May at 8:20am:** All parents are invited to a meeting about the exciting upcoming Digital Transformation at St James Prep, an initiative involving Years 4, 5 and 6 initially. The meeting will provide an opportunity for you to learn about how devices will be used to enhance teaching and learning, including hands-on demonstrations, and for you to ask about any queries you may have.

Advice from our school's lead teacher in technology and home devices.

- *Reinforce an open and honest dialogue, your child will make mistakes!*
- *Ensure appropriate filtering and monitoring at home.*

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parental-controls-offered-by-your-home-internet-provider>

- *Involve your child in decisions and discussions about technology*

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/phones>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides>

- *Do not be afraid of confronting conversations*

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/have-a-conversation/>

- *Reinforce key guidance from school e.g **we do not speak to anyone online that we do not know and trust in real life, tell an adult if anything makes you feel uncomfortable***
- *Report serious issues to authorities and CEOP*

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

Useful Resources:

- Useful parent information - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- Useful parent information, especially on parental controls - <https://www.internetmatters.org/>
- Website for children and parents, with game- https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/
- Website for children and parents, with game - https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
- Useful parent information - <https://www.childnet.com/>
- Advice on specific games - <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-gaming-advice/>

PSHEE letter:

Dear Parents,

We wanted to write to you to let you know about the PSHEE lessons coming up this term. We will be following the PSHE syllabus that we have been following all year, Coram Life Education & SCARF. The unit of work is called Growing and Changing.

This unit provides the initial building blocks for learning about reproduction in plants and animals, including humans. We will discuss the life cycle of humans and this may lead to some conversations about end of life.

Overarching Unit Learning Outcomes

Children will be able to:

- Understand that there are changes in nature and humans.
- Name the different stages in childhood and growing up.
- Understand that babies are made by a man and a woman.
- Use the correct vocabulary when naming the different parts of the body.
- Know how to keep themselves safe.

Your child will be learning the following content in their PHSEE lessons this term:

| Lesson | Summary of content | Learning outcomes |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>Where do babies come from?</u> | <p>This lesson includes discussions and activities about different types of families.</p> <p>The lesson covers these questions and answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where do babies come from? [A mummy/woman's tummy/womb. The womb is the name given to a special place between a woman's hips where the baby grows]• What do they do in the woman's womb? [grow/move/feed]• When do they come out? [Usually after nine months when they are able to survive outside the womb.] | <p>Children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain that a baby is made by a woman and a man, and grows inside a mother's tummy.• Understand that every family is different.• Talk about similarities and differences between themselves and others. |

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| | <p><i>Babies born before then need lots of looking after by nurses and doctors.]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What do they need when they are out? [milk/warmth/clothes/cuddles/love]</i> • <i>How did they get there? [A type of seed, called an egg from a woman and a type of seed, called a sperm, from a man.]</i> | |
| <p><u><i>Me and my body - girls and boys</i></u></p> | <p><i>During this lesson, children are introduced to the words penis and vulva.</i></p> <p><i>Research shows that children who are taught the correct words for their genitals are more able and more likely to report sexual abuse if it is happening or has happened to them.</i></p> | <p><i>Children will be able to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Name parts of the body (including reproductive parts) using the correct vocabulary.</i> • <i>Explain which parts of their body are kept private and safe and why.</i> • <i>Tell or ask an appropriate adult for help if they feel unsafe</i> |

We encourage you to ask your child what they learned and discuss it as appropriate.

If you would prefer your child not to participate in the lessons, please do let us know in advance. The lessons will start next Wednesday.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask.