



Summer 2017



Reception News

THEME FOR THE TERM

We begin this term by joining the rest of the school in taking part in the National Gallery's Take One Picture initiative. Our new topic will then be 'Out and About'. As usual, it will cover most areas of the EYFS curriculum. This half term, however, we especially focus on the world in which we live, home and abroad, hoping to foster an awareness of our own and other cultures and care for our environment.



LITERACY

Our phonics' work continues and, in this final term of Reception, we particularly encourage the children to use their phonic knowledge to write independently.

Our weekly 'Penpals' handwriting work moves on from 'curly caterpillar letters to the 'zigzag monster' letters as outlined in the information sheet previously sent to you.

As usual, reading continues to be part of our daily literacy sessions. Our Literacy texts will be linked to our topic. These include the traditional tale 'Town Mouse and Country Mouse' as well as the more modern stories including 'On the way home', 'Ah Spider' and 'Rosie's Walk'.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

We begin by focussing our attention on our school environment and hunting for 'Minibeasts' and then move on to thinking about the village of Henfield! To start this off we will be going on a walk around the village. (Date to be confirmed) We set off after morning registration and return in time for lunch. We'd love to have as many adult helpers as we can on this occasion!

We will then turn our attention to other countries with a special focus on Italy.
As we will taste some typical foods please remember to advise us of any allergies.



We are also hoping to encourage the children to talk about and share their own cultural background. We would love the children to bring in any photos, postcards, books or other artefacts relating to this or any other countries for regular 'show and tell' sessions.

In R.E we will be looking at religions around the world. We will also learn about St. Peter, during the week of the saint's day which is 29th June. We will be joining the rest of the school in going to church for a special service on that morning - again you are welcome to join us.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN

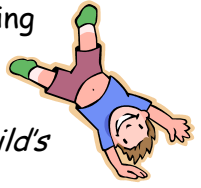
During the Take One picture week we will be looking at the painting 'Penelope with the Suitors' by Pintoricchio (See print in the classroom!) and taking part in a variety of activities both art based and across other curriculum areas. We also look at two pieces of art as part of the 'Out and About' topic: Monet's 'Water Lily Pond' and 'The Snail' by Matisse. If you are 'out and about' in London, you can find them in the National Gallery and at the Tate: alternatively you might like to visit their excellent web sites!



In addition to creating their own paintings of Henfield and pond paintings in the style of Monet, the children will be making rubbings of building materials.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

We continue with weekly P.E sessions Friday mornings. We carry on with developing the children's basic games skills during our Friday outdoor sessions and will also be practising for Sports Day (Friday 30th June). Please ensure that your child has a clearly named P.E kit, including plimsolls, every week. *Please check that your child's plimsolls still fit!*

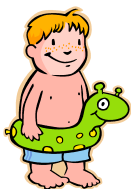


AND FINALLY....

..... We very much enjoy meeting you in the mornings as the children come in to school and settle into their day. We are aware that it can be very busy both in the classroom and corridors. Therefore from this half-term we will be encouraging the children to come in to the classroom on their own to develop their independence. However if you do have anything that you wish to discuss or your child is not happy to leave you outside please do still feel free to come in.

...Now we have started the final half term of the school year our thoughts turn to preparing the Reception children for Year One. Over the coming weeks, a number of events will take place in school which will enable the children to feel ready for this change. We also welcome children from local playgroups who will visit us as they prepare for starting school. Please take a little time to read the 'Transition Matters' letter that you will be receiving soon. We value any comments which may help prepare the current cohort and the new children for their new situations in September.

...A reminder that as the weather becomes warmer, it is increasingly important that the children bring a drink each day. This needs to be in a named bottle (with a spill proof 'sports' top) and is to be put in the classroom drinks tray at the beginning of the day.



...Please also remember to protect your child by applying sun cream before school. A spare bottle or tube of cream, clearly named, may be given to your child's teacher, to keep at school, so that we can re-apply it during the day. A hat for outdoor play is now essential - we won't allow children to go outside without one!

...At the end of the term you will receive your child's first school report and there is an opportunity to discuss it with us. As usual, however, if you have any concerns before then, please don't hesitate to make an appointment to see us at a mutually convenient time.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

