



## Curriculum Information - Reception

### Spring Term 1 – 7<sup>th</sup> January – 14<sup>th</sup> February

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our topic in Spring 1 will be 'Fairytales'.

We will be reading many interesting stories, including some from other countries, and discussing their features: settings, characters, events. We will also be creating our own stories.

Our PE and forest school day will be on Friday.

<b>Communication and Language</b>	We will be practising speaking in full sentences, especially when replying to questions. In small discussion groups, we will be learning good listening behaviour – looking at the person who is speaking, expressing our opinions, agreeing and disagreeing with the speaker. We will be discussing different characters from familiar stories and learning to justify our opinions about them.
<b>Physical Development</b>	Working on fine and gross motor skills through play and guided activities is an ongoing task in Reception. Correct pencil grip and cutting skills are our priorities, which we will be supporting through planned activities guided by an adult and available in the classroom for children to access during free play.  In our Friday PE lessons, we will be learning the basics of Gymnastics. Children will develop relevant skills while working both the floor and using the apparatus. We will explore creating shapes and balances, jumps and rolls thinking about how to use space safely and begin to understand using levels and directions when travelling and balancing. We will copy, create, remember and repeat short sequences.
<b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b>	With our RSE scheme, we will be learning about likes and dislikes, which make us different vs. needs, which we all share. We will learn about pleasant and difficult feelings and think about how to manage them. We will be learning that our behavioural choices affect others. We will discuss change and growing up, too.  We will also be focussing on negotiating and solving problems without aggression and playing co-operatively. We will have a go at trying new activities and widening our friendship circles.
<b>Literacy</b>	In phonics, we have now introduced all Phase 2 sounds. We will be

	<p>practising blending for reading and segmenting for spelling simple CVC words. We will have a go at reading and writing simple phrases as well as sentences. We will carry on practising our 'tricky words'.</p> <p>We will be learning Phase 3 sounds, which are as follows: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo (long as in 'moon' and short as in 'look'), ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er. Our new tricky words will be: was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure. We will focus on forming each letter correctly, which sometimes involves de-learning incorrect letter formation.</p> <p>We will be writing for a purpose while exploring our topic of 'Fairytale', which will involve writing about characters, settings and events in familiar stories and inventing our own ones.</p>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>In Mathematics, we will carry on subitising and counting daily, thinking about the composition of numbers and representing numbers in writing, using objects, fingers, sounds (e.g. clapping a given number of times).</p> <p>We will also be classifying and grouping objects based on various criteria. With the start of the new year, we will be learning about the calendar – days of the week and months of the year.</p>
<b>RE</b>	<p>Our RE topic is 'Galilee to Jerusalem' and we will be looking at some events in the life of Jesus, including His miracles, and considering the significance of His coming. We will be looking at how people who knew Him responded to Him and how the church and Christians respond to Jesus today.</p>
<b>Understanding of the world</b>	<p>We will be learning about materials and how they change. We will explore it through fun activities, which will involve cooking and baking as well as exploring water and how it changes its state. We will also be using various recycled materials to create models (junk modelling). We will also be looking at light.</p> <p>Children will learn about Chinese New Year.</p>
<b>Expressive Arts and Design</b>	<p>Apart from regular opportunities to use our imagination during pretend play, make and create artwork and sing, dance and learn poems and rhymes, we will be focussing on sculpture this term in our Art lessons. We will use various malleable materials to create 3D representations of various creatures and natural objects to create landscape sculptures while exploring different tools and techniques.</p> <p>Our fortnightly music sessions with Miss Clifford will provide children with opportunities to sing and use instruments.</p>
<b>Home Learning</b>	<p>The children are expected to read daily. It is really important that your child reads the Big Cat books to you independently or with minimal</p>

	<p>support at least once or twice every week. Please, use guidance at the back of the book to support them with reading with expression and ask them some comprehension questions to check whether they understand the text.</p>
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	<p>We will carry on visiting our school library and children will have an opportunity to choose a new book each week, as long as they return the book on loan from the previous week by Thursday morning. Please, fill in the electronic reading record on Boom Reader regularly.</p>
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	<p>Please, keep all books in children's book bags daily.</p>
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	<p>Homework will be set on Google Classroom every Friday.</p>
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Please, continue to check the school newsletter, school website and Facebook page for important dates and information.

Please ensure your child has their reading and library books in their book bag every day.

Finally, please make sure that EVERYTHING has your child's name on.

Should you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss please email [reception@holyfamily.herts.sch.uk](mailto:reception@holyfamily.herts.sch.uk) or phone the school to make a telephone appointment.

Any urgent matters – medical appointments, absences, illness, etc. should be reported to the school office as the Reception email box is never accessed during teaching time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Kieś and Mrs Lawrence