



# EAST SHEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## RECEPTION CURRICULUM BULLETIN

### SUMMER TERM 2024

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have enjoyed the spring break. We had a very relaxing time! Here is our bulletin giving you information about the work to be covered by your children this coming term.

### **Topic Titles: 'Fairy tales', 'Life Cycles' and 'The Blue Planet'**

During the first half term, we will be doing 'Fairy tales' and 'Life Cycles'. Children will learn a traditional fairy tale off by heart and we will be bringing in lots of drama into our Literacy lessons. Life Cycles has been chosen to encourage the children to investigate their surroundings and the local environment. We will be focusing on plants, minibeasts and growing.

During the second half of the term, our topic will be, 'The Blue Planet'. This topic is a continuation of our 'All Around the World' topic from Spring 2. We will be focusing on the species that live in our seas and oceans.

### **Communication and Language**

To reflect our local environment and our topic teaching, we will introduce a number of new role-play areas into our setting. We will be discussing our ideas with the children for Jack and the Beanstalk, Goldilocks and the three bears and a garden centre. For the second half of the term these will change to become an ice-cream shop, a pirate ship and a mermaid cove. These will encourage the children to use language to communicate their imagined stories in these stimulating settings, as well as providing contexts for the children to write their own fairy tale story.

### **Literacy**

The children will be introduced to lots of topic-related books including 'Superworm' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk', as well as non-fiction books about plants and the life cycles of different animals. They will have opportunities to make labels, signs and lists, write simple stories and look at the features of fiction and non-fiction texts.

In the second half of the term, our literacy work will extend our learning on Spring 2, looking at the texts, 'Commotion in the Ocean', 'Barry and the Fish Fingers' and the 'Rainbow Fish' to name a few. The children will continue to have phonics four times a week. During these sessions, the children will learn new sounds and consolidate prior learning, practise correct letter formation and develop their blending and spelling skills. We will also continue to learn a new high frequency word each week. Mystery reader to continue every Thursday. Parent reader volunteers still needed Monday to Thursday 3pm – 3:15pm.

## **Mathematics**

In our mathematics work this term the children will be involved in practical activities that will develop the following concepts:

- Building numbers beyond 10
- Counting patterns beyond 10
- Spatial reasoning
- Adding and taking away two numbers
- Doubling and halving
- Sharing and grouping
- Even and odd numbers

## **Understanding the World**

We will be investigating and exploring a range of fruits and plants and will be finding out about the food we eat and where it comes from. The children will examine different seeds and will plant and observe a variety of seeds in our outdoor garden. We will also be finding out about the wildlife that inhabits our growing environment and the life cycles of different species, including minibeasts, humans and other animals.

During the second half of the term, we will be learning about the natural world and about the living creatures found in our seas and oceans. We will also be learning about the impact that people have on the environment and the things that we can do to take care of it.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

The children will be developing their observational skills and will produce careful line drawings of different fruit and flowers. They will also use watercolour paints to make detailed paintings of flowers and plants. During musical activities, the children will be playing percussion instruments, as well as being given opportunities to respond to other music.

During our second topic, we plan to make our own musical instruments using junk modelling, as well as experimenting with different media to create pictures and props for our role play areas.

## **Physical development**

The children will be developing ball skills, focusing on dribbling, bouncing, throwing and catching and team games. The children will continue to develop their fine motor skills using malleable materials, small construction toys and lacing and tracing activities. They will also access a range of activities that enable them to continue to develop their coordination and gross motor control. On May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, the children will take part in cycling training, where they will learn or develop skills to successfully ride a push or pedal bike. After that, they will be able to continue to develop the skills learnt in our outdoor areas with the bikes that we have. If you have small bikes with pedals that you would like to donate to us, please let us know.

## **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

We will be continuing our Jigsaw Scheme. In the first half term the children will learn about relationships in the family and what it means to be a good friend. During the second half of the term, the children will consider how they are changing and begin work to prepare them for the transition into Year 1.

'Show and tell' sessions will continue this term every Tuesday afternoon. You could help your child to prepare for this by rehearsing what they would like to say or show.

### **Other Useful information**

Please continue to send in WOW cards telling us about the children's achievements at home. Please could you highlight in particular how your child may use technology and if they are superstars at dance, music, drama or any other activities we may not know about at school. If you need more WOW cards, you can find them on our website, under the Reception tab in Year Groups. Alternatively, let us know and we can get some more; there is no limit to the amazing things your children can achieve.

Finally, we are hoping for some sunny weather this term and anticipate that the children will be spending lots of time outside. If the weather is forecast to be sunny, they should have appropriate sun protection, so please make sure that your child has sunscreen applied before school, as we are not allowed to apply it in school. They should also bring a sun hat and they must have a water bottle with a sports lid in school every day.

We look forward to having lots of fun at school this term!

Yours sincerely,

The Reception Team