



EAST SHEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

RECEPTION CURRICULUM BULLETIN

AUTUMN TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

Each term we will send home a bulletin to supply you with detailed information concerning the topic work being covered by your children. We trust that the information will prove useful to you.

We hope that you and your child have settled well at East Sheen Primary School and into classes RG - Cygnets (Miss Lydia Groh's class) RD – Ducklings (Miss Marta Delgado's), and RM – Owlets (Miss Naomi Matthews' class). The teaching assistants working in Reception are; Mrs Holly Mitchell, Ms Elizabeth Mends, Mrs Sevil Kaplan and Ms Karen Ramsey. We thank you for your co-operation in encouraging your children to come into school independently at the beginning of the day.

Topic Titles: All About Me and Day and Night

The 'All About Me' topic has been chosen to introduce the children to school life. The children are going to be able to explore, learn and talk about what things make them unique and special.

During the second half of the term, we will begin to explore the topic of 'Night and Day'.

Communication and Language

The children will be encouraged to:

- participate as a speaker and listener in group activities and class discussions
- develop an interest in reading books with adults and peers
- listen to and join in with stories
- develop their pencil control and 'writing'

Once the children are settled, we will begin our phonics programme which will continue throughout the year introducing letter sounds each week. We cover 4 sounds per week, and this is the order in which we teach them:

m, a, s, d
t, i, n, p
g, o, c, k
u, b, f, e
l, h, sh, r
j, v, y, w
th, z, ch, qu
x, ng, nk

Literacy

This half term we will be reading stories linked to our topic, 'All About Me', encouraging children to recognise repetitive language and join in with key phrases. The children will be developing their fine motor control, working on the correct grip of writing tools and begin

to link sounds to letters. They will also begin to learn correct letter formation as they work through the phonics programme.

After half-term they will hear a range of stories relating to the topic 'Night and Day', including 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark'. They will also be introduced to the different thinking maps: circle maps for defining; bubble maps for describing and flow maps for sequencing. At the start of every topic, children will be given an opportunity to contribute their ideas and knowledge to a circle map. The 'Thinking School' methodologies aim to equip children with the thinking skills needed to effectively tackle problems across and beyond the curriculum, both at school and in the future, through deep and critical thinking.

Mathematics

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

- Matching and sorting objects according to different criteria
- Comparing size, mass and capacity
- Exploring pattern
- Representing, comparing and composing numbers up to 5.
- Introduction to 2D shapes: circles, triangles and shapes with 4 sides
- Positional language
- Knowing one more and less than a number
- Time

We learn about number and teach children the correct formation. We not only do this through using objects to count and number cards but also through watching 'Numberblocks' clips. The scheme of work we use is called White Rose.

Understanding the World

The children will be developing their observational and investigative skills through practical activities associated with our topics, like learning about their bodies and their different abilities.

After half-term, we will be investigating and exploring the differences between day and night and finding out about nocturnal and diurnal animals. We will also learn about space and the solar system.

Throughout the whole term, we will talk and learn about different festivals and traditions that are celebrated around the world: the Harvest Festival, Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas, amongst others.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be undertaking a range of creative activities this half-term. They will be creating pictures about themselves and the things that they like, using collage materials and explore a range of media whilst creating autumn art. The children will also be encouraged to express their ideas and experiences through drama, song and dance.

After half term, we will begin to provide opportunities for the children to represent nocturnal animals through different media such as clay, paint and collage materials. They will also have opportunities to express their ideas about bonfire night artistically.

Physical development

The children will be developing their fine motor skills through a range of activities such as small and large construction, puzzles, threading, lacing and pencil control activities. There

will also be outdoor activities for the children such as riding bikes, throwing and catching games, moving large scale resources such as tyres and heavier items such as bricks to name a few. These will help the children to develop their gross motor skills. These kinds of activities will be provided throughout the year but will vary and relate closely to the topic.

Reception will also have two weekly P.E. sessions. One will be taught by their class teachers and the other by NS Sport. During these sessions, the children will be learning to listen carefully and respond appropriately to instructions. Through gymnastic and dance activities, they will be developing their spatial awareness, control and co-ordination whilst moving in different ways. The sports coaching lessons will take place on Tuesday afternoon and class teacher led PE lessons will be on Wednesday morning.

Children will need to come to school on their PE days dressed in their PE kits.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This year we are continuing with the programme of study – ‘Jigsaw’ for all year groups. It integrates PSHE, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development. The ‘jigsaw’ approach is to bring all of these aspects of learning together into one clear picture, helping children to know who they are and understand how they relate to other people in the world. Jigsaw PSHE promotes a mindful approach in teaching children how to be more aware of their thoughts and feelings as they happen. The first two pieces of the jigsaw to be studied in the Autumn Term are ‘Being Me in My World’ and ‘Celebrating Difference’.

Through all areas of the curriculum, we will support the children to make new friends and become confident and independent learners. They will be encouraged to follow class rules that will make their environment a happy and safe place to be. Each week the children will take part in a whole class circle-time; this encourages the children to listen to each other and helps to increase confidence speaking in front of a group.

Things to practise

- Dressing independently for school, including zips and buttons on coats
- Going to the toilet independently and taking responsibility for their personal hygiene
- Name writing using a capital letter at the beginning and all other letters in lower case
- To begin to recognise numbers out and about e.g. on buses, on doors, on birthday cards etc.
- Practise using cutlery independently and effectively.

Other Useful information

- Please send a named water bottle with a sports cap (to avoid spillages). The bottle should be taken home daily for cleaning.
- Please also remember to send your child into school in weather appropriate clothing.
- If you have any urgent messages or queries and we are not available to speak to at drop-off or pick-up, please inform any of the classroom assistants or contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

The Reception Team