



What is happening in Reception?



Co-op Academy
Nightingale

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have enjoyed the half term holidays and welcome you and the children back for a new and exciting half term. This term we will be exploring farms and are looking forward to our trip to the Carriage Works Theatre to see 'The Gruffalo'. We are excited to start using Tapestry in Reception and look forward to sharing our WOW moments with you.

Mrs Staines & Miss O'Donnell



Who works in Sparrows Class

Mrs Staines (Class Teacher)
Mrs Ahmed (Teaching Assistant)
Mrs Seifi (Teaching Assistant)
Mrs Springer (Senco – Wednesday AM)
Mr Clark (PE Teacher – Wednesday AM)
Mr Casey (PE Teacher – Wednesday AM)



Who works in Starlings Class

Miss O'Donnell (Class Teacher)
Miss Saima (Teaching Assistant)
Miss Bal (Teaching Assistant)
Mrs Springer (Senco – Wednesday AM)
Mr Clark (PE Teacher – Wednesday AM)
Mr Casey (PE Teacher – Wednesday AM)



Promoting Independence

Please label all items of clothing, shoes, water bottles, coats and jumpers so that children can find them easily. Continue to encourage your child to dress and undress independently at home so they can manage their own coats and jumpers throughout the day. They are making super progress.

Please can all children bring a **water bottle** containing water only as part of our healthy school policy.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 4 March – Pancake Day
Thursday 6 March – World Book Day
11 & 12 March – Parents Evening
Thursday 3rd April – 'The Gruffalo' Theatre Trip
Friday 4th April – End of Term
Tuesday 22nd April – Return to school

Being prepared for the weather

We love to play outside regardless of the weather.

Please provide your child with wellies when needed and named hats and gloves.

Library Reading Books

Please keep your child's library reading book and record card in their book bag and return it each week to be changed. We change their books on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please write on the reading record if your child has enjoyed the story. Thank you

Junk Box Modelling

The children are beginning to enjoy making models using their new joining skills. We are always grateful to receive the following items: tubes, small boxes, plastic trays and inserts, ribbon, tissue paper and yogurt pots. The children are loving making some fabulous models.

Teaching and Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will read a large range of stories and take part in discussions that help us to continue to develop our personal and social skills. We will think about respecting our differences, dealing with our emotions and showing kindness and consideration to others. We use the Zones of Regulation when we need to think about how we are feeling and discuss with our teachers if we need some help.

We will be focussing on being healthy and making healthy choices in our lessons.

Physical Development

There will be lots of resources and activities to encourage the children to develop their fine motor skills; including 'squiggle whilst you wiggle'. By developing fine and gross motor skills we will become more confident at holding pencils and writing. We will also be developing our essential gross motor skills by running, jumping, climbing, balancing and travelling in different ways. In PE will develop balancing and gymnastic skills.

Maths

In maths we will explore numbers 7-10 in depth. For each number we will learn to recognise it, to know what smaller numbers it is made up of; we will learn to recognise a quantity at a glance (subitising). We will continue to investigate odd and even numbers and doubles by playing with a range of open ended provision. We will also look at the properties of 2d and 3d shapes.

Understanding the World

We will be investigating how living things grow and change over time. We will be focussing on life cycles and linking them to our farm topic. We will also be planting flowers in our garden and watching them grow. We can link this to our own growth and development, talking about how we have changed from when we were babies to how we are now.

Listening, Attention and Understanding

This half term we will develop our listening skills by working with our talking partners. We will follow instructions so we can complete our rainbow challenges independently and we will listen to stories and non-fiction information and respond by answering question and re-create events.

We will respond with ideas to change and recall information during our talk for writing lessons, offering suggestions and thoughts to recall and improve the story. This term's story is The 3 Little Pigs

Literacy

We continue to work through our Read Write Inc scheme, learning sounds made of two letters and practising reading and writing words, captions and sentences. We are practising writing our names and forming the letters correctly.

We enjoy listening to stories, creating story maps and using the story basket to retell different stories we know. We are developing independence when writing about our topic and labelling our models.

Expressive Art and Design

Our inside and outside areas provide lots of opportunity to develop our artistic and creative skills. We enjoy large scale construction; role-play; moving rhythmically to music; singing and exploring paint; clay and collage resources. We are thinking about mixing colours and which tools to use for the job. We will apply these skills to creating our farm pictures this term.

Enrichment

Mrs Simons has been visiting our classes each Monday to sing with us. She has been teaching the children to sing at pitch and copy sounds and notes. Mrs Simons uses different instruments and resources to help the children with their songs.

Please return the permission slip for our theatre trip by 6th March.