



Reception: Spring Term 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The following will provide you with information about the coming term.

During the Spring term, we will explore two overarching topics, starting with an 'Imagination exploration' theme. This will focus on topics such as Castles, Chinese New Year and Fairy Tales where children will consider life in other periods of times, different places around the world, as well into the lives of characters from their favourite storybooks. On top of in school learning, children will have the opportunity to explore these ideas hands on through group drama, visits to The Tower of London and Chinese celebration day, where an authentic food tasting will be provided.

Later on in the term we will move into 'A Wonderful Wildlife' theme, taking a close look at growing by exploring plants, mini beasts, dinosaurs, and the season of spring. Children will have the chance to grow their own plants, observing the way in which they grow and recording their ideas on how to best care for them. We will also get to meet lots of mini beasts up close, both during our continued visits to Copleston and Warwick Gardens, as well as a mini beast workshop where children can hold and learn all about animals such as centipedes, woodlouse and giant snails! We will also be heading out to The Natural History Museum to investigate dinosaurs and will hatch and care for our very own baby chicks as we head towards the Easter break.

Further details about all trips and workshops are on Schools buddy.

Reading and Writing

This term we will continue to work our way through the Read, Write Inc. programme. The focus this term is the application of phonological knowledge in independent writing. The children will continue to develop their sight vocabulary – to read short un-decodable words such as the, go, I. The children know these words as 'red words' or 'tricky words.' As their understanding of sounds has developed, writing opportunities will aim to get children working on their segmenting and blending skills. Children will be encouraged to say their words out loud, use their Fred Fingers to count the sounds they can hear and use Read, Write Inc. sound mats to support as they write.

Once a child has begun to blend, reading books will be changed regularly. Each child will receive a reading record book for you to record comments. It is essential that children read every day in order to develop their confidence and understanding as readers. These reading books will be changed on **Mondays**, **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** on the condition that an adult at home has read and signed the reading record.

P.E and Garden Days

This term, the children will move on from Dance and begin their progressive sports sessions. These will continue to take place on **Wednesdays** and therefore children can continue to come to school in their kits on this day.

We will continue to use our wonderful garden space at Copleston Road. The children will visit once a week, Felt Class on **Tuesday** afternoon and Wool class on a **Monday** afternoon. On these days please make sure your child has appropriate outdoor footwear and a waterproof jacket. In wetter weather, if you wish to send welly boots or an all-in-one waterproof suit, you are more than welcome to. If your child is attending Owls on their garden day, a change of uniform (including clean shoes) is advisable.



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Reminders

- It is vital that you let the school know if you are unable to collect your child from school. You can do this by speaking to the class teacher, phone or email to inform us of who will be collecting your child.
- Please ensure that your child brings their book bag to school every day along with their reading book and reading record book.
- Please ensure that all items of clothing, including PE Kits are **clearly labelled** with your child's name. We are very much trying to build 'Little Londoners' with all children this year, meaning children should be taking further responsibility of their own things. This means ensuring they take care of their own cardigans/jumpers/hoodies at school and carrying their own bags on the walk in!
- Please remember that staff are always available to answer questions, with Class Dojo being the best way to contact your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

The Reception Team

Miss Hogg, Miss Chan and Miss Brown (Student teacher)

Miss Moran, Mrs Mellor & Miss Atkins