

Dear Reception Parents,

January 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome to the Spring Term We hope you had a good Christmas break. Thank you, on behalf of all the Foundation Stage staff, for the very generous Christmas gifts.

Topic/Theme

Our main topic for the term is “Journeys”. We will be learning about: fantasy journeys based around the stories “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt”, Mr Gumpy’s Boat”. “The little Boat”, and “Whatever Next” (journey to space). We will also be learning about journeys around the local area such as our journey to school. We will celebrate Chinese New Year, St. David’s Day, Spring and Easter. An overview of the curriculum for this term is included with this letter and is also on the website.

Cold weather

As always, teaching and learning will take place both inside and outside so please ensure your child has a **hat** and **gloves** as well as a **warm coat**, all **NAMED** and in school **EVERY DAY**. Please support your child’s independence by ensuring they are able to zip up their own coat and put on their own gloves. Water bottles must also need to be in school every day. Children are encouraged to help themselves to water at regular intervals throughout the day. Their daily fruit is available for them, at playtime and children who have milk are given this at story time

Reading books/Phonics

Children can change their reading book every day or keep the book for more than a day for further practise or to finish as appropriate. Children have the opportunity to change their reading book independently each morning when they arrive at school. If your child is forgetting to change their book, please do remind them at drop-off time.

After revising all phonics work to date, we will be moving on to learning vowel digraphs eg. /ee/oo/ai/igh/oa. We are learning to name as well as sound the letters of the alphabet and to match lower and upper case letters. Please use your child’s sound book to practise NAMING as well as sounding the single letters alongside learning the new vowel digraphs. New sounds are put into sound book wallets on **Fridays** so please ensure sound books are in book bags on this day. Further sets of common exception words (tricky words) will also be sent home as and when children are ready for them. Teachers collect in children’s reading record books to read your comments/questions on **Tuesdays (Mrs Rizvi’s class) or Wednesdays (Miss Dawes’ class)** so please put these in book bags for this.

We are looking forward to an exciting term working with your children. Look out for the new family challenge for this term.... Melting an ice-cube, see the weekly planner for more details. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to us as pick up time or via phone or email through the office.

Mrs Rizvi

Miss Dawes

and the Foundation Stage Team