



# Welcome to Reception

## Reception Newsletter November 2020

### Our Learning

We are beginning our learning about the story of 'The Little Red Hen' this half term. We will learn the story and be able to tell it using a story map. We will also be making and tasting our own bread.

Following this we will be learning about some important festivals and celebrations and learn how these are similar and different to each other. This will include the Nativity story near Christmas time. We appreciate that many of you will be disappointed in the fact that we will be unable to hold our annual Nativity play this year so we have something up our sleeve so that you can still see those little angels perform!

### Maths

We follow the maths mastery approach to maths. This means that we focus on 1 number for a week and the children practice a range of skills using this number. This ensures that the early maths principles are understood well and children can engage in challenging maths thinking using smaller amounts before moving onto larger numbers. We are currently learning about number 5. (They learnt about 0-4 with Mrs Ferguson). Keep an eye out for activities you can do to support your child's maths learning at home.

### Phonics

We follow the Letters and Sounds and Nottingham City Phonics schemes. Children will take part in phonics carpet sessions every day to allow them to learn letter sounds and how these sounds are blended together and segmented for reading and writing. They will begin by reading and writing short words such as dog or hen and will progress onto short sentences and longer words as they learn more sounds. They will also learn high frequency and tricky words that cannot be sounded out but simply said aloud when they are seen. It is important that children learn these words as it will help to make their reading more fluent. Please keep an eye out for simple activities you can do at home to help your child's phonics learning.

### Showbie

Last half term, all of the children received a log in for our online home learning platform, Showbie. We will be continuing to use this to share home learning ideas with you to support your child's learning at home. We will also be uploading some videos on there that give ideas of how to use some of the things we send home e.g high frequency words. We would normally hold a welcome meeting where we talk about these things but we are not able to in the circumstances so are providing videos instead. If you have any questions about Showbie then please see a member of the Reception team.

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## Reading Books

Each child will bring home a reading book linked to their phonics learning in school and another that supports more fluent reading using lots of different decoding skills. Please share these books 3 times a week. Many children will begin to remember text and seem like they are not 'reading'. Please be assured that this is ok and they are developing fluency through practise. Try encouraging them to point to each word to ensure they are matching the spoken word to the written one.

Children need to bring their reading books in their book bags **EVERY MONDAY**. This will be the day we change books to allow old ones to be put to one side and not given to another family for 72 hours following Covid-19 guidance.

Children will also have some pink words in a wallet that they must keep in their bookbag. These are the words children must learn to recognise when reading without sounding them out. A video of games will be uploaded to showbie shortly if you would like ideas.

## Please Remember

We are doing lots of outdoor learning and sometimes the weather is wet.

Children need a coat at school everyday and suitable footwear – wellies for the hillside should be at school please.

## Please Remember

Children need to bring their own NAMED water bottle to school each day and have a bag of spare clothes on their peg in case of any accidents.

If you have any questions or concerns, please remember we are available to have a chat about them with you and we will find a suitable space to do so that allows us to social distance.

Thank you,

Miss Bradley, Mrs Khan and the F2 team.

