



15th March 2019

Dear Family,

This week we continued to explore Pet's as part of our animal topic. We read a funny story about a boy who designed his own pet and the children enjoyed designing their own pets, and they made missing posters for our class pet teddies when they went missing!

Today we celebrated Red nose day by designing our own red noses and we enjoyed some Irish dancing to celebrate St Patrick's Day and we learnt about St Patrick's life.

Science Career Day!



This week the children had lots of fun learning about different aspects of science by taking part in experiments such as colour mixing, cooking, sorting materials, exploring floating and sinking and making potions during the week!

Please take a look at the photos of our busy week on our Reception blog.

Magic Bean homework project!



Last Friday the children took home a 'magic bean' (runner bean) to look after at home. Please encourage your child to keep their bean on a windowsill and to water their bean regularly.

We also sent home a bean diary, please encourage your child to draw or take pictures of their bean plant growing over the next few weeks. They can write about the changes they see in their bean plant, and you can also write down what they have observed in their diary. They can then bring their bean plant and their diary into school during the last week of term before the Easter holidays to share in class.

We are very excited to see the Magic beans growing!

Maths:

This week we explored halving and sharing. We started by sharing food between two children and practised cutting food templates in half - then children were very good at folding the templates to find half before they cut them. We then practised sharing a group of objects fairly between two friends e.g if we have 6 slices of ham for our pizza, Ann will have 3 slices on her half, and Josh will have 3 slices on his half. We practised lots of 'halving' groups using counters in games where the children had to share in their pairs.

Please encourage your child to practise their 'halving' skills at home by playing the star counter game!

Literacy:

This week the children made lots of predictions in our Big Book about pets and we practised reading our phase 2 and 3 words by sight in the story.

We have now taught all letter sounds, digraphs and trigraphs and we will recap them for the rest of the Reception year. Please help your child to recognise and write all the phonics sounds - we are sending home the template we use in school.

Phase Two Words: please practise reading by sight (automatically) Please also practise writing the words.

a	can	up	him	is
an	dad	mum	his	it
as	had	but	not	of
at	back	the	got	off
if	and	to	no	on
in	get	I	go	into

Phase 3 Words: Please practise writing the words once your child can read them.

will	that	this	her
then	them	with	my
see	for	now	are
down	look	too	you
he	she	we	they
me	be	was	all

Phase 4 words to practise reading at home

went	help	do	little
it's	said	some	one
from	have	come	when
children	like	were	out
just	so	there	what

Phase 5 words to practise reading at home

don't	house	came	put	oh
old	about	make	their	people
I'm	your	here	Mr	called
by	day	saw	Mrs	asked
time	made	very	looked	could



Morning Reading club

You are welcome to come into school on **Tuesday and Friday mornings** to read with your child. Mrs McGhie will also be with you to support you with any questions you may have about your child's phonics and reading skills. The sessions will run from 8.20 - 8.45am. Please come to the school office at 8.20am. Thank you.

Mother's Day Breakfast: Thursday 28th March: 9-10.30am

To celebrate Mother's day the children would like to invite their mum, nanny, older sister (over 18) or auntie into school to spend the morning enjoying Mothers Day activities and a breakfast tea party!

(Due to space we can only invite one member of the family into school.)

Please sign your name on our class sign up sheets if you can come to our Mother's Day morning.

Gruffalo Trail trip: Friday 29th March



We will send home permission letters next week for our upcoming trip. You can choose to provide your child with a pack lunch for the day or you can request a school pack lunch.

Water Bottles

Please can you make sure your child brings in a water bottle to school everyday.

Thank you.

Reminders:

- 20th & 21st March - [Parent consultations \(please note the change of date\)](#)
- Thursday 28th March - [Mother's Day Breakfast](#)
- Friday 29th March - [Reception trip to The Gruffalo Trail in Brentwood](#) Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to help on the trip - we have informed the parents who will be coming with us and we will make sure that all parents who signed up will have the opportunity to help on another trip this year.
- Friday 5th April - [Last day of school](#)
- Tuesday 23rd April - [School reopens for the Summer term](#)

Wishing you a lovely weekend! The Reception team