



Welcome to the Reception class newsletter—full of key information for the term ahead. This term, our context for learning is:

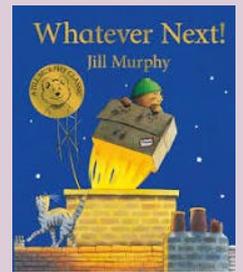
Space

Reception Team: Class teachers—Brónagh Heaney & Muhsena Tuhin

Class TAs - Susannah Hutchison & Carol Davis

Literacy

The books that we are focusing on link to our topic, Space, and include *Whatever Next*, *Aliens love Underpants*, *Bob the Man on the Moon*, and non-fiction books about space. The children will begin to hold a sentence in their head before writing it down. Their writing will include initial sounds, and digraphs. A digraph has two letters that make one sound, e.g. 'sh'.



Maths

In Maths we will be working on developing our ability to subitising numbers to 5. Subitising means to recognise quantities without counting. You could support your child in this by looking out for the familiar patterns that quantities make (for example, 4 dots on dice are always in a square shape). We will use a mastery approach to learn all about the numbers 6, 7 and 8. We will consider skills within these numbers such as number bonds, adding and taking away, more and less and doubling and halving. Always encourage your child to look out for numbers and symbols on buses, houses (odds and evens) and in the environment.

Understanding of the World



We are learning about Space and writing our own space fact books, making equipment for our space station and creating lots of space-themed art. We are even using 'space rocks' and planets to help us with our Maths. Please help your child to

research answers to their questions by looking in books or by carrying out safe searches on the internet.

Next half term, we will learn about animals - naming animals and the differences between how they look, what they eat and where they live.

Can you name all 8 of the planets in our solar system?



Music

We will be having weekly Music lessons with our specialist teacher, Mr Prescott. He will be teaching us songs to help us remember the names of the planets. In Music Appreciation we will listen to the music of Gustav Holst, David Bowie, Hans Zimmer and a little bit of the Prodigy.



PE

Indoor PE this term will be on Tuesdays and outdoor PE will be on Thursdays. Please ensure your child wears their full kit to school on these days. We are learning ball skills—throwing, catching and rolling. You could

Personal, Social and Emotional development

We will have regular Circle Times focusing on sharing, team work, and how to look after our environment. We will discuss how girls and boys can be astronauts and engineers. We will practise team work when building our rockets by listening to each others' ideas and working with a partner.

Reminders

Jewellery: The only jewellery we allow are watches and stud earrings. If possible your child should not wear earrings on PE days.

Lost Property: Please keep your child's toys and trinkets safe by ensuring they are kept at home. Toys that are brought into school can cause upset if they go missing.

Uniform: Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name and encourage them to look after their belongings. If you are unsure about school uniform, please look on the school website. Please promote hygiene and general safety around school by having Velcro on children's shoes, as opposed to laces.

We endeavour to be a nut free school. Please be aware of this when you prepare your child's lunch box. This includes peanut butter, Nutella, pesto, hummus and products with sesame seeds.

Birthdays: If you would like to make a gift of a book for the class to celebrate your child's birthday, that would be much appreciated.

Water bottles: Please ensure your child brings in a named water bottle, filled with water, each day.

PE : Indoor PE on Tuesdays. Please remember your child needs a round neck white short sleeved t-shirt and navy shorts (above the knee).

Outdoor PE is on Thursday, for which your child will need a t-shirt, navy tracksuit trousers and trainers or

Home Learning

Big Cat books online and books from the class library: We expect children to read 4-5 times a week and record this in their journal (to be signed by their parent/ carer).

Please encourage your child to manage the arms of their coats and jumpers, as well as by encouraging them to put their own coats on independently.

If your child produces any home learning linked to our topic, we would love to share it with the rest of the class.

Important dates



Open morning—7th February
Parents Evening—9th February

Half term

Monday 13th February—

Friday 17th

February

Last day of term

31st March 2023