



# Summer Term in Reception

*'But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work  
will be rewarded'*

*(Chronicles 15:7)*

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a wonderful Easter break and were able to spend time with your family and friends. We have heard lots of exciting stories about Easter egg hunts, holidays and activities that the children have taken part in.

The Reception team would like to thank you all for your on-going support. The children in Reception have continued to impress and flourish beautifully throughout their time in school and we have lots of exciting opportunities planned for this term.



## Important reminders:

PE KIT must be in school on Wednesday.

Jewellery must not be worn and long hair tied back.

All of kit must be labelled with child's full name.



**Reading Books** -As you know at St Thomas' we follow the phonics scheme Read, Write Inc. During their daily phonics lesson, the children will be assigned a book which they will read for 3 days. Once the children have read this book in class, they will then be assigned a home school book which will include the sounds covered in their lessons. The children will therefore be assigned a new reading book every 3 days to support their accuracy and fluency. Please ensure all reading books are in school daily. We ask that if a book has been read that an adult sign inside the reading journal, so that we know and change this book for you. The children will bring home 2 reading books throughout this term. This will include a phonics-based reading book, which will match the sounds that are taught in school. Once your child has read their phonics book, please encourage your child to re-read the story again as this will develop their speed when reading and help



## Ten top tips for reading stories to your child

- 1 Make reading to your child feel like a treat. Introduce each new book with excitement.
- 2 Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so both of you can see the book.
- 3 Show curiosity in what you're going to read:  
*Oh no! I think Arthur is going to get even angrier now.*
- 4 Read the whole story the first time through without stopping too much. If you think your child might not understand something, model an explanation:  
*Oh I think what's happening here is that...*
- 5 Chat about the story:  
*I wonder why he did that?*  
*Oh no, I hope she's not going to...*  
*I wouldn't have done that, would you?*
- 6 Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers.
- 7 Link stories to your own experiences (e.g. *This reminds me of...*)
- 8 Read favourite stories over and over again. Get your child to join in with the bits they know.
- 9 Read with enthusiasm. Don't be embarrassed to try out different voices. Your child will love it.
- 10 Read with enjoyment. If you're not enjoying it, your child won't.



them to use expression. To the left, you can find some questions you may wish to ask your child to support their comprehension development.

They will also bring home a story book with a sticker that reads 'Reading for Pleasure'. These books are to be enjoyed at home with an adult reading the story to encourage children to listen to new vocabulary and explore a range of genres. Please ask questions about what they have read to develop their comprehension skills and love for reading. You can find our 'Top Tips' for reading with your child at home on this page.

Each week, the children will be set a phonics story using the online portal Oxford Owl. These stories have been read in school and focus on specific sounds and red words. Please can you support

your child with reading these at home. There will also be a quiz set that links to the storybook. These scores will be checked each week by the teacher. Please use the following link to login to your child's account. If you need any support with this, please speak to a member of the EYFS team.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

The children are now becoming more confident with their reading. We are encouraging the children to recognise and practise their high frequency words which are listed below. By learning to read these words independently, the children will develop their fluency.

Red Words Set 1				
I	the	my	you	said
your	are	be	of	no

  

Red Words Set 2				
what	all	was	we	so
to	me	call	her	there
want	go	old	some	he

**Homework** – Homework books will be sent home on **Fridays** containing two pieces of homework; one piece of Maths and one piece of Literacy and must be returned by the following **Wednesday**. Some Maths homework tasks may be set on the Maths Shed Portal. All children have their own individual logins for this.

**Snack time** - Water bottles and snacks should be labelled where appropriate; children will bring these into the classroom in the morning and place them in a basket. Drinks should all be in a bottle which has a sports lid, children are only allowed water in these. We would like to remind parents free snacks are available to all children, however if you wish to pack snack for your child, we encourage healthy, to promote a healthy and balanced diet to the children. We would prefer children to bring their snacks and water into the classroom in the morning so they can be easily accessed. All snacks must be nut free due to allergies in the school.

**Other important reminders-** Please remember children need to be dropped off and collected at the **Reception doors** and the doors will be closed at **8:50am** in the morning. They will be opened at **3:05pm** in the afternoon. Children will only be dismissed to their parent/carers. We ask that if somebody new is collecting that you let the class teacher know and the main office. Only adults 18 and over are able to collect children from school.

**Please do not allow your child to play in the Reception outdoor areas or climbing equipment before or after school- please do not allow your children to stand on the table tennis tables**

Please can we also remind parents that **all** items of clothing and belongings **needs to be labelled with your child's full name**. This will help adults in the school find any lost items.

Children's uniform needs to include black shoes and the correct coloured cardigan or jumper. If you have any questions regarding school uniform, staff are happy to help.

Can we please remind parents that girls hair bobbles and hair bands need to be of a simple style and appropriate to wear in school.

### Sun Safety

Now the weather is improving, we will be encouraging the children to think about how to stay safe in the sun. Please can we ask that all children come into school with a sun hat which is clearly labelled with their name. Sun cream can also be applied before the children come to school and it can be reapplied in school if required. We ask that children apply the cream themselves and do not share sun cream with others due to allergies. Children may also bring into school an extra water bottle to



ensure they stay hydrated throughout the day.

## E-safety-



## Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?



Sourced from NSPCC website October 2019

It is important to promote safe and positive use of digital technology.

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/smartie-the-penguin/>

Click on the link to see the online story about a Penguin and learn how to keep safe on the internet.

You can also find some tips on talking to your child about online safety.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talkingchild-online-safety/>

### Topic for Term 5- On the farm

Throughout this term, the children will be learning about farms and farm animals. This will focus on identifying animals and their young using the correct names, exploring where food comes from and what plants need to grow. The children will also take part in dance lessons in PE and learn how to play percussion instruments and follow a beat.

### Topic for Term 6- All around the world

During this term, children will explore different countries and cultures. This will give the children the opportunity to share countries they are linked to and make comparisons. They will also look at special ceremonies that are celebrated in Christianity and make links to other religions.

Summer term, the EYFS team will be supporting the children with their transition into year 1, ready for September. This will involve the children taking part in more formal lessons, story times in the year 1 classrooms and meeting their new class teacher. If you would like any information regarding the new framework, please speak to your child's class teacher. Pre-school children will also be visiting the Reception classrooms in preparation for September.

### Structure of the day:

During Term 5 the day will consist of an hour-long session of differentiated phonics, where children will continue to consolidate their learning surrounding segmenting and blending. The children will continue reading simple texts and use what they have read to complete and write simple sentences.

The children will then take part in Literacy and Maths lessons. This will include a guided carpet session, adult led activity and then an opportunity to complete activities independently. This term the children will focus on addition and subtraction.

The focus for Literacy this term will be surrounding non-fiction and fiction texts. We will be looking at writing descriptive sentences using adjectives and conjunctions and retelling familiar stories.

In the afternoons the children will continue their child-led topic sessions.

Also, this term, we are looking forward to our class assemblies, letters about dates, costumes and lines will follow.

In the afternoon sessions, the children will then have the opportunity to engage in child-initiated play and provision. This will be tailored to our current topics. Child initiated is a brilliant opportunity for the children to master any skills taught and challenge themselves further in their learning. Please could all children bring wellies into school so they are able to explore the outdoor area and experience different weather types.

Thank you for your support. If you wish to ask any questions to any member of our Early Years Team, please feel free to do so.

Mrs Harris, Mrs Corfield and Miss Clark.



Please keep up to date following us on twitter and our class pages on the website.

[@MrsH\\_StTs](#)

[@StThomasBoston](#)

[@InfinityAcad](#)