



Spring Term in Reception

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

Chronicles 15:7

Welcome! We would like to begin by taking this opportunity to welcome all of our parents/carers back to our spring term at St Thomas' Primary Academy. We hope you have had a fantastic Christmas break.

The Early Years Team would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Reception parents and carers for their cooperation and support during the first term. We are extremely proud of all the children and how well they have settled into their first term at school.

Important reminders:

PE KIT must be in school every day.

PE will take place on a Wednesday.

Jewellery must not be worn and long hair tied back.

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

Reading Books – These need to be in school **daily**, but will be changed twice a week. Reading at home with your child is **essential** and helps your child consolidate what they have learnt in school and develop their reading ability. If a book has been read please 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. 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 your children questions about what they have read to develop their comprehension skills and love for reading. Below are some links to support reading with your child at home.

You can scan the QR codes below or use the links to find more information about how you can support your child at home with their reading.



www.readingroockets.org/article/tips-encouraging-kids-read



www.verywell.com/activities-to-encourage-pre-reading-621060

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**.

Math's Shed- There are lots of games that can still be accessed but develop counting and number skills, as your child plays they can collect 'honey pots' which go towards a league table.

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. This includes any Nutella products.

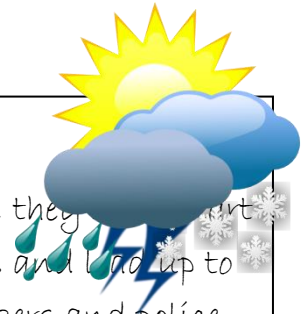
Other important reminders- Please remember children need to be dropped off and collected at the **Reception doors** and the doors will be closed at **8:50am** in the morning and **3:05pm** in the afternoon.

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.

Topic for Term 3: Superheroes

This term the children will be learning all about superheroes, they will start the term looking at fiction books with Superhero characters and lead up to learning about our community superheroes e.g postal workers and police officers. The children will also be looking at the local area surrounding the school and their home. In Maths the children will be focusing on the numbers 0-5 focusing on how to make those numbers, finding one more and one less and quick recall of the amounts.



Topic for Term 4: Round and Round we go.

Our topic for term 4 will focus on vehicles. We will be looking at stories which feature a range of different vehicles and the roles those vehicles have. In Maths the children will be moving on to the numbers 6,7 and 8. They will be looking at how to make the numbers and how our number knowledge helps us build those numbers e.g doubling 4 and 4 to make 8.

Read, Write, Inc.

The children will continue to learn sounds through differentiated phonics, where children will consolidate their learning surrounding segmenting and blending. The children will begin to read simple texts and use what they have read to complete and write simple sentences. Please encourage your child to recognize their tricky words and sounds in their environment. When reading their reading book, challenge your child to re read with less emphasis to decode. This will develop their fluency.

After break the children will then take part in both a Math's and Literacy lesson. This will consist of a whole-class adult-led input to begin, followed by activities both adult-led and independent.

In the afternoons the children will take part in our teeth brushing and continue their adult-led topic sessions, followed by the opportunity to engage in child-initiated play and provision. Child initiated is a brilliant opportunity for the children to master any skills taught and challenge themselves further in their learning.

Physical Development:

Gymnastics' will be taught every week in the sport's hall on a Wednesday afternoon.

Thank you for your support. If you wish to ask any questions to any members of our Early Years team please feel free to ask.

E- safety

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.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/> Tips on talking to your child about online safety.

Upcoming Events

This term we are excited to inform you that reception children will be going on their second school trip. The children will be visiting St Thomas' Church a letter with details to follow.

To help encourage a love of reading with reception, we are hoping to hold a reading afternoon where you will be welcome to join us in the classrooms and outdoor area to share stories, rhymes and songs with your children and their friends.

Miss Kelly and Mrs Shepherd