

Class Newsletter

Reception

Spring 1st half term 2024



In this newsletter you will find information about the learning theme for this half term.
We are looking forward to another fantastic 6 weeks with lots of learning!

Early Years staff

Mrs McIlwaine- Reception Class Teacher
Miss Kippax – Nursery Class Teacher
Mrs Islam- Teaching Assistant
Miss Ibrahim – Teaching Assistant

Happy, Healthy Me!

To start the New Year, we will be talking all about keeping our bodies fit and healthy!
Firstly we'll be practising the names of our different body parts and thinking about how we use these to get us moving!
We will learn about different foods and where they come from as well as exercise and how it affects our bodies.
When discussing our favourite foods, we will have the chance to try some new ones!
We will talk about our bodies needs along with the needs of other living things.

Each week will have a different focus:

Week 1 – My Amazing Body
Week 2 – I am Growing
Week 3 – Fabulous Fruits
Week 4 – Vegetables full of Vitamins
Week 5 and 6 – Keeping Healthy, Body and Mind
(we will also be learning about Shrove Tuesday and Lunar New Year)












Reading

Reading is such an important part of learning that we strongly encourage sharing books at home as often as possible.
Within school we read and share books daily as a class. We also have **2 Reading Areas** where children can choose to sit and enjoy sharing books alone or with friends or teachers.

Phonics – we have a daily lesson in class.

Here are the sounds we are learning this half term:

How to say the Phase 3 sounds

Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase	Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase	Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase
ai		Open your mouth wide and say ai ai ai	oo		Pucker your lips and keep them small as you say oo oo oo	ear		Smile with your lips apart, push your tongue to your teeth as you say ear ear ear
ee		Smile with your lips apart and say ee ee ee	oo		Open your mouth just a bit, put your hand on your tummy, pull your tummy in and say oo oo oo	air		Open your mouth wide, push your tongue down as you say air air air
igh		Open your mouth in a relaxed way and say igh igh igh	ar		Open your mouth wide, push your tongue down and say ar ar ar	er		Open your mouth in a relaxed way, push your tongue down and say ur ur ur
oa		Make an 'o' with your mouth and say oa oa oa	or		Make an 'o' with your mouth, push your tongue down and say or or or			

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For more information visit: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

School reading scheme - Your child will read their 'Little Wandle' reading book in their group with a teacher on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They will bring this same book home and we expect them to share this with you (please comment and sign in their reading record book).

Your child MUST bring this book back to school EVERY day. The aim is that each group moves onto a new book on Mondays.

Library books – Every Thursday, your child will be able to select a new book to take home for you to read to them.

Please keep library books in reading bags so they do not get lost. You DO NOT need to record this library book in your child's reading record.

Maths

In maths this half term we will be exploring the following 4 themes...

Alive in 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding, subitising and representing numbers 0-5 1 more and 1 less Composition of numbers to 5 Conceptual subitising to 5 	Mass and Capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare Mass Find a Balance Exploring and comparing capacity 	Growing 6,7,8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding and representing 6,7,and 8 1 more and 1 less Composition of 6,7 and 8 Make pairs – odd and even Doubling to 8 Combine two groups Conceptual subitising 	Length, Height <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring and comparing lengths and heights
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Homework

All children are expected to read **at least 3 times a week at home to their parents**, add a comment and sign to show how you are supporting your child at home.

There will be stickers and prizes at the end of term for children who have read regularly at home.

Your child has some 'Homework Challenges' to complete. Please take time to try some at home together (but don't do it for them...we'd like to see the children's drawing and writing).

Return all completed homework by Friday 9th February

Useful Websites:

Our school website is

<http://www.gilnow.bolton.sch.uk/Pages/Welcome.aspx>

General:

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

<http://www.primarygames.com/reading.htm>

www.topmarks.co.uk

Physical development

PE takes place on Thursday with our PE coach.

PE kits should remain in school, until the next school holiday when they can be taken home for washing (and to check it all still fits).



REMINDERS

Reading bag – Please bring to school EVERY day

(do not put water bottles inside as damaged reading books will need to be paid for).

Coats – Please ensure that your child brings their coat every day and their name is inside.

Labels – Please ensure that all clothes have names inside.

Water bottles- should be labelled and brought in daily.

Now that the weather is getting colder, please ensure your child is wearing a warm coat to school.

On very cold days also send in a hat and gloves.