

# Curriculum Information

## Reception Autumn 2



Hello everyone and welcome back! I hope you had a well deserved, restful break. I just want to take this opportunity to say how proud I am of Reception. It's been great to see how settled they have all become into school life which can be a very busy time. We can't wait to start a new adventure this half term starting with our topic "All around the world" with our focus question being "What is in our wonderful world?" Throughout our topic, we will be taking a geographical approach through investigating our local environment and comparing it to other countries. We will be exploring hot and cold places found around the world and discussing the animals and landmarks found there. Finally we will of course be celebrating Christmas! We will be researching how other countries celebrate Christmas and how it looks around the world with an exciting visit to our local Garden centre to see the Christmas display and a visit to St Ives to look for signs of Winter. We look forward to welcoming you to our next parent event where we will be showcasing our hard work!

Book changes will remain on a **Monday**. Your child is read with 3 times per week at school, so please ensure they have their book with them everyday. Library will remain on a **Tuesday** and P.E will continue to be **Tuesday's and Thursdays**. Your child **must** come in their P.E kits on these days.

### Maths

This half term we will be focusing on numbers 1-10 including recognising numerals, counting forwards and backwards and making amounts. We will also be finding one more and one less. We will also be having a strong focus on writing numbers this half term.

Throughout the home setting maths will occur naturally however there are a few things you can do to support your child with their school focus for this half term.

- Playing shops - can I have one more apple etc..
- Counting at every opportunity
- Making patterns using a variety of resources (cubes, cars, fruit)
- Mark making numbers with different materials (glitter, shaving foam, sand)
- Download the White Rose App and have a go at some games!

### English

To link with our topic "All around the world" We will be focusing on 3 key texts.

**Book 1** Whatever Next by Jill Murphy

**Book 2:** Emperors Egg by Martin Jenkins

**Book 3:** The Jolly Christmas Postman by Janet and Alan Ahlberg

Throughout these texts we will be focusing on the structure of a story, looking closely at the beginning, middle and end. We will be encouraging children to retell stories using their own words emphasising on the vocabulary used throughout the stories. We will begin to write CVC words to go with our work and start to form simple labels towards the end of the year.

**A few things to do at home to support the above:**

- When reading, pause and ask what might happen next.
- Ask why questions ("why are they sad?")
- Order the story through pictures

## **Phonics**

We will continue learning Phase 2 sounds and words throughout phonics. This half term we will be learning some tricky words. Trick words are words you can not sound out phonetically e.g was/into/she/he/my  
We will also be learning some digraphs as we move through the programme. A digraph is 2 letters that make 1 sound in many words. e.g 'ch' in chip and 'sh' in shop.

The children have made amazing progress in Phonics and their reading and we are so proud of their achievements. We look forward to seeing them progress further this half term.

## **Reading**

Linking to our phonics scheme is also our reading sessions. Each Monday your child will be provided with a new Little Wandle reading book. At school, your child is part of a reading group. Each group has between 6-8 children in. They then read together alongside the teacher or TA x3 times per week following the 3 sessions:

**Session 1 Decoding:** This is the chance to learn the story, learn new vocabulary and explore the structure.

**Session 2 Prosody:** A chance to continue learning the story, look at characters and expression when reading.

**Session 3 Comprehension:** By this stage we hope the children are familiar with the story and need little help. At the end of the story we ask questions to check their understanding.

All guidance for the 3 sessions are in the back of the book for practice at home too.

## **Topic**

Throughout our topic "All around the world" The children will be looking closely at maps identifying their basic features such as a road and water. They will explore their local environment including the landmarks found there and compare this to another country. We will then talk about hot and cold places around the world including what we might see there, what clothes we might wear and the animals found in those places. We will also look at significant events in history such as the moon landing and explore space and the planets.

## **Technology**

To link into our topic "All around the world" The children will be exploring maps. To link with this we will be using the bee-bots on simple maps, encouraging the children to use navigational language. The children will also use the iPads to play mathematical games on the white rose apps and to create images using the painting tool.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

The children always have access to the design and craft area but these will be complemented with different enhancements and focused activities related to their topic.

The children will also participate in a cooking unit this term where they will be creating a healthy meal. They will be chopping, peeling and mixing alongside trying different foods from around the world.

Through music we will continue to explore a variety of instruments and use them to create different pieces of music.

## Physical Development

**Gross Motor:** Use of outdoor area, building dens, spatial awareness, using climbing frame equipment, being safe, building obstacle courses.

**P.E Focus:** Introduction to P.E unit 2 and Dance following our scheme Get set for P.E

**Fine Motor:** Name writing, sound and number formation, threading and weaving, playdough, putting on shoes and fastening coats.

## R.E

This half term our big question links to our topic: **How do we celebrate Autumn festivals.**

We will cover R.E each half term for 1 whole day.

Where possible we link to as many other areas of the curriculum throughout this day including music, communication and language, writing and art.

## PSHE

This half term we will be looking at: celebrating differences, identifying talent, being brave, making friends and understanding feelings. We will complete a circle time each week based on a topic with a series of activities supporting our provision.

At Harden we also follow **My Happy Mind:** A wellbeing programme for primary children taught through a story. Our focus story this half term is Charlies Rainbow Adventure. The activities will then look at: Being kind and loving others, creating a superhero cape identifying strengths.

## Home Learning

**Reading** - We will continue to follow our Little Wandle scheme. When reading with your child ask lots of open ended questions e.g how do you think they're feeling and why? and what do you think might happen next? There are lots of prompts at the back of your child's reading book to support you.

**Words** - As sounds are taught, flashcards will continue to be sent home to practice. We recommend you do some sort of reading or phonics work daily to consolidate work completed at school but we understand that as the children start school it's sometimes just too tiring so don't worry too much as they have lots of practice when in school!

**Marvellous me** - Here you will find observations of things your child has done at school. This might be a wow piece of writing or maths or their amazing creating in the construction area. We aim for a variety of observations per half term. Please expect about 2 per week, per child. Please check this app regularly as it's a contact point for important messages from Reception staff.

If there is anything you would like to discuss in person please let me know and we can arrange a date and time. If you have any questions please feel free to email me or catch me at pick up/drop off

[Reception@hardenprimaryacademy.co.uk](mailto:Reception@hardenprimaryacademy.co.uk)

Thanks! Miss Roe :)