

# Curriculum Information

## Reception Spring 1



Hello everyone and welcome back to a new term and a new year! I hope you all had a well deserved break and a wonderful Christmas! We can't wait to begin a new adventure this half term, starting with our topic "Terrific Tales" with our focus question being "How have traditional tales changed over time?" Throughout our topic, we will be taking a historical approach through identifying old and new fairy tales including their settings, characters and plot and comparing them. We will also take a geographical approach through discussing other countries traditional tales and how they differ to those told in the UK. We have a very exciting Fairy tale workshop to support our learning which includes a visit from a storyteller and an exciting drama workshop where we have the chance to become villains, kings, queens & trolls and act out our favourite tales!

We look forward to welcoming you to our next parent event where we will be showcasing our learning this will take place on **Friday 2nd February at 2:15pm**

Book changes will remain on a **Monday**. Your child is read with 3 times per week 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 consolidating our understanding of numbers 1-10 including counting forwards and backwards, recognising and ordering numbers. Finding one more and one less and comparing amounts.

We will also focus on size and capacity this half term introducing your child to the vocabulary: Full, half full, empty, larger, taller, smaller, higher and so much more!

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 please buy 7 apples..
- Counting at every opportunity
- Filling and emptying containers in water/sand/rice/pasta/cereal (bath play!)
- Ordering number cards.
- Download the White Rose App and have a go at some games!

## English

To link with our topic "Terrific Tales" We will be focusing on 3 key texts.

**Book 1** Goldilocks and the three bears by Usborne Picture Books

**Book 2:** The Gingerbread Man by Fairytale classics

**Book 3:** Little Red Hen by Jess Stockham

Throughout these texts we will be focusing on the structure of a story, looking closely at the beginning, middle and end and sequencing using visuals to support. We will also be encouraging the children to adapt and change the ending of the stories using their imagination! Our writing focus will be on captions and simple sentences this half term.

**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 move into Phase 3 sound this half term! I will continue to send home flashcards as the children learn a new sound. This half term we are having a strong focus on **Tricky words**. Tricky words are words you can not sound out phonetically e.g was/into/she/he/my

Some vocabulary you may hear your child hear this half term:

**Digraph**: 2 letters making one sound e.g ch in ch-i-p

**Trigraph**: 3 letters making one sound e.g igh in l-igh-t

*If you haven't already sign up to our phonics live lesson! We look forward to seeing you there.*

## **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. Please feel free to leave a comment in your child's journal to tell us how they're doing.

## **Topic**

Throughout our topic "Terrific Tales" The children will compare old and new tales looking closely at how characters have changed and adapted with our current world. We will also look at other countries traditional tales and compare them to how they're told in the UK. We will closely observe the structure of a Fairy Tale including a "hero" and a "villain" and a happy ending. We will read plenty of traditional tales including; The Gingerbread Man, Magic Porridge Pot, Jack and the Beanstalk, Three Billy Goats Gruff, Cinderella and a whole lot more!

## **Technology**

The children always have access to the IPADS in the classroom including a variety of educational apps to support their learning. This half term we will be looking closely at the doodle app creating representations of fairy tale characters and well known settings using the painting and drawing 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 painting unit this term where they will be creating a imaginative representation of their choice. We will be looking at the work of Kandinsky to support our learning.

Through music we will continue to explore a variety of instruments and use them to create different pieces of music. Our focus this half term will be on pitch and tone of our voices when singing.

## Physical Development

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

**P.E Focus:** Dance unit 2 and Gymnastics Unit 2 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 is:

### **Who helps us?**

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: facing challenges, seeking help, persevering and jobs around the world. 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 Arabella and her friends at the seaside. The activities will then look at include: what are we grateful for? What do we appreciate? How do we show gratitude?

## 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 x2 per week, per child. Please check this app regularly as it's our contact point for important school messages.

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 :)