

Curriculum Information

Reception Summer 1



Hello everyone and welcome back to a brand new half term - I hope you all had a well deserved break and a lovely Easter. We can't wait to begin a new adventure this half term, starting with our topic "Our Journey" Our focus question is "What was life like in the past?" Throughout our topic, we will be taking a historical approach through investigating what life was like throughout different periods of time. We will look closely at life beyond our living memory and compare this to our lives now, also considering how life might be in the future. Throughout our learning we will research what the village of Harden looked like in the past and how school/toys/clothes were very different to the present day. We hope to invite our grandparents in to discuss what life was like for them at age 4 so keep your eyes posted for an upcoming date.

We look forward to welcoming you to our next parent event where we will be showcasing our learning this will take place on **Monday 20th May 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.

Maths

This half term we will be concentrating on numbers to 20. Counting forwards and backwards, recognising and ordering numbers. Finding one more and one less and comparing amounts.

We will also continue to focus on addition and subtraction this half term - the children are using concrete resources and numberlines to support this skill and really enjoy this unit.

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.

- Counting at every opportunity
- Ordering number cards.
- Writing numbers (This is a focus of ours this half term)
- Create a number hunt around the house.
- Add and subtract toys/dolls/sweets etc.
- Download the White Rose App and have a go at some games! - I highly recommend this!

English

To link with our topic "Our Journey We will be focusing on 3 key texts.

Book 1 The Growing Story by Ruth Krauss

Book 2: When I was young by James Dunbar and Martin Remphry

Book 3: The Story Machine by Tom McLaughlin

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 encourage the children to create their own stories/retell stories in their own words and adapt/change parts of the story using their imagination. Our writing focus will be on writing a simple sentence this half term, introducing the children to capital letters.

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? How do you know?")
- Encourage story telling (drama and written)

Phonics

We will move into Phase 4 sounds this half term! When exploring blending in phase 4 phonics, your child may begin to form sound clusters. These are when single letter sounds are joined together to almost make a sound of their own. For example the sl in sleep, tr in tree or gl in glass. As always if you need any support with phonics please just come and see me.

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

Tricky word: Words that can't be phonetically segmented. E.g the/was/no/is/has/they/said/come

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 "Our Journey" We will begin by asking the children what they know about the past and what they want to know. This will support our learning journey allowing elements of child led learning. We will then begin exploring what toys were like in the past and comparing them to now, we will move onto looking at school life and how that has changed over time discussing how children were once only taught English and maths, how PE was called drill and how the school uniform has had a drastic change! We hope to invite parents/grandparents in at this point to share what life was like when they were little. We then move to observing how transport had changed over time—looking closely at the first car and plane. Our topic links closely to PSHE thinking about how we have changed over time and how we will continue to change as we move into the future. Our outcome is to work in small groups to document how life has changed from the past to now. We hope to share this with you at our parent event.

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 hope to use the doodle app to create self portraits but we also hope to use the ipads to research past life, looking at maps and imagery to support our learning.

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 sculpture unit this term where they will be exploring junk modelling, and making a variety of creations. Our end outcome will be to create a mode of transport using recyclable materials. The children will use skills taught such as joining techniques to support their end outcome.

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 using instruments to explore feelings such as anger/happiness/love and sadness.

Physical Development

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

P.E Focus: Games and Ball skills following our scheme Get set for P.E

Fine Motor: Sound and number formation, threading and weaving, playdough, fastening coats, taking jumpers on/off

R.E

This half term our big question is:

**Spring and Summer Festivals. What are they?
Who has them?**

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/RSE

This half term we will be focusing on the unit "Being Our Best" following our new PSHE scheme SCARF. We will focus on: Bouncing back when things go wrong, Healthy eating, A healthy mind, Importance of moving our bodies and a good night's sleep

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 Rose's story. The activities will then look at include: What makes a good friend? Active listening and being helpful.

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 - 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

Thanks! Miss Roe :)