



# Curriculum Newsletter

Reception | Spring Term 2 | 2023



**Dear Parents and Carers.**

**Thank you for supporting the children and staff this half term. It has been a busy half term and the children particularly enjoyed learning about healthy and unhealthy food, exploring our local area by going to Tesco and buying ingredients for our Reception banquet.**

**Please see below to find out what they will be learning next half term. Have a fantastic half term break and we look forward to another fun-filled and learning-packed term!**

This half term, our topic is **Growing** and we will be focussing our learning around the key questions;

**What do plants need to grow?**

**Why do we need plants?**

**Our 'Stunning Start' to launch our topic will be:**

- **A visit from a surprising guest...**

The children will be visited by a familiar teacher and her new baby!

The children will be able to ask questions about what babies are like and reflect on their own experiences.

**We will enhance children's learning and 'Cultural Capital' with the following virtual experiences, websites and texts:**

- Now Press Play (Jack and the Beanstalk)
- An opportunity to plant a seed and watch it grow
- Exploring plants and flowers on the school grounds and taking photos

**Our 'Showcase' piece of work at the end of the topic will be:**

- **Growing cress!**

The children be learning how to grow their own cress seeds and using the knowledge of plants to help their cress to grow.

**Our 'Shared Outcome' to communicate our learning with others could be posted on Tapestry.**

- **A Reception picnic!**

The children will make their own cress sandwiches for a picnic with their friends at the park!



## Here is a breakdown of the skills and knowledge to be covered in each subject through this topic:

### Literacy:

Key texts:

**Jack and the Beanstalk**

**Dear Greenpeace**

**How to Grow a Seed**

**Non-fiction books about growing**

Key skills:

- **Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary**
- **Write some letters accurately**
- **Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can: recognise words with the same initial.**

### Maths:

- Recite numbers past 5
- Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.
- Compare quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'.
- Explore the composition of numbers to 10.

### Useful websites and texts to support learning in this topic:

1. Science  
kids: <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/animals-and-nature/plants/how-plants-grow/>
2. Cbeebies gardening for kids:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/how-does-your-garden-grow?collection=national-gardening-week>

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

The children will learn the importance of taking turns in groups and treating each other with respect. They will understand the importance of working together and being aware of our similarities and differences.

### Understanding of the World

The children will use information books to find out about how plants grow. They will explore the life-cycle of a plant and apply their oracy skills to describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.

### Physical Development

The children will focus on a range of skills including; throwing and catching. They will be improving their gross motor skills through ball skills. The children will develop hand control using a range of different activities: drawing, cutting, painting, writing, play-dough, clay.

### Expressive Arts and Design

The children will use different media, tools and techniques to make models including representations of and story characters. They will use imagination in the role play area and sing a range of songs and rhymes sometimes with percussion accompaniment.

**Reminders:** PE will continue on Fridays. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kits every Friday. We will also be taking part in **Forest school** on Fridays so the children will need to keep a pair of wellies at school.

