

Reception News

We are, unbelievably, almost halfway through the year and are coming to the end of our Starry Night theme. The children were very excited to see footage from our nighttime video camera last week – we managed to see a fox visiting our woodland and have just recorded a badger too. We will be showing the children the video later this week once it's been downloaded. Last week we found a hole in the woods with some scratch marks around it. Some of the children were wondering what animal might have been digging and we thought it might be a badger.

This week we are thinking about celebrations – Chinese New Year, Valentines Day and Shrove Tuesday which are all happening over half term.

This week we are learning:

Phonics – this week we are recapping all of the sounds and tricky words that we have taught so far. We will be using some of the Bug Club games and games on website such as Phonics Play and Phonics Bloom to practice our blending and segmenting skills.

Literacy – Vocabulary Victor will be helping us to identify and use describing words. We will be looking at pictures and writing describing words to make captions. We will also be reading 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers and will be writing captions to describe aliens.

Maths – we are thinking about Chinese New Year – looking at ordinal numbers used in the story about the Chinese Zodiac, having races outside to remember the position of each of the 12 animals, writing Chinese numbers and counting coins to make lucky red envelopes.

Jigsaw – our Jigsaw focus for this term has been 'Our Dreams and Goals'. This week we will be recapping everything that we have learned and will be thinking of our dreams and goals for the remainder of the year.

Music – We will continue our Witch Witch lesson. The focus is on call and response, and we will be learning a simple singing game that uses a simple and repetitive four-note tune to support the development of pitch making.

PE – we will continue our Thembi Walks the Tightrope lessons. Last week we balanced on the ground. We will challenge ourselves by walking on tip-toes and will use benches to balance.

Handwriting – this week we will learn about one-armed robot letters and will focus on h & k.

Other – there will be lots of Chinese New Year crafts – Chinese lanterns & horse themed crafts as next year will be the year of the horse. We will also be making Valentines cards and will be learning about Shrove Tuesday.

Reminders

- There are still a lot of childrens clothes, water bottles and lunch boxes that are not named. Please ensure that everything is named so we can return things to their rightful owners. Getting changed after PE is taking much longer than necessary because we are trying to match children to clothes that are not named.
- We will put lost property out on the rainbow bench outside Willow classroom this week. If you are missing anything, please have a look.
- Parents evenings are on Wednesday or Thursday this week. If you haven't yet signed up for a 10 minute slot, please contact Mrs Turner in the office. If you are unable to make parents evening, please let your child's class teacher know. Reception teachers will be in Beech classroom in the KS1 corridor. There will be staff around to direct you and give you your child's books to have a look at. Please bring the books into our meeting so we can look at them together.
- School finishes at usual time on Friday. We return on Monday 23rd February.
- The school nursing team will be in school on Tuesday 24th February for height and weight screening (please see email sent home on 4th February for further details).