

# Reception Curriculum Newsletter

## Literacy



This half-term our focus texts for literacy will be *Whatever Next!* by Jill Murphy, *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister and *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* by Judith Kerr. We will use these books to learn about story structures, practice sequencing events, learn how to label and write short captions. The children will also learn rhymes and poems linked to these texts as well as learning new key words to increase their vocabulary. Your child will also be beginning to write simple words and sentences over the next few weeks – using the phonics sounds that they know to sound out words.

*Please take time to practice your child's phonics sounds with them as they need to be able to recognise them quickly in order to begin reading words.*



## Jigsaw (PSHE)

This half-term our Jigsaw topic is Dreams and Goals. The children will be learning about the importance of resilience – never giving up. As a group, we will discuss obstacles which may get in our way, and we will talk about how we might overcome these.

*Never giving up is an important attitude to encourage for learning. Try to highlight moments at home when this may apply for both children and adults.*



## Mathematics

This half term the children will be securing their understanding of the concept of zero, how we can make the numbers 4 and 5 and comparing numbers within 5. Numbers 6, 7 and 8 will be introduced and the children will begin some simple addition. We will be continuing our exploration of mass and capacity as well as introducing the concept of length and height. We will learn some language to describe time so that we can talk about events using 'first', 'then', 'yesterday', 'today' and 'tomorrow'.

*Please continue to practice counting with your child and recognising numerals in the environment. Name shapes you can see and invite them to help with baking to get experience of weighing and measuring.*

## Phonics

Over the next few weeks – the children will be continuing to revisit their Set 1 Sounds. The children take part in a daily phonics session – exploring a focus sound and reviewing the sounds that they already know, as well as a reading and handwriting activity.

It is so important to continue reading at home to support your child with their phonics. Being able to read is essential to the children's learning as they progress through school and at Moss Road we want every child to be able to read fluently and to enjoy reading.

*Never giving up is an important attitude to encourage for learning. Try to highlight moments at home when this may apply for both children and adults.*



## Dates for your diary . . .

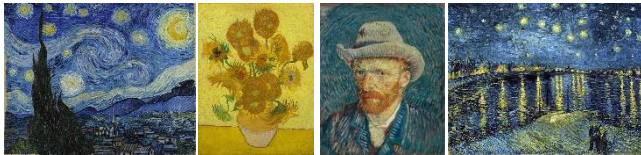
Box2BFit Day	11 <sup>th</sup> January
Parent's Evening	6 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> February



## Expressive Arts and Design

This half term our focus artist is Van Gogh. We will be looking at some of his well-known pieces of art and we will be using these for inspiration in some of our own artwork. The children will also be looking at Van Gogh's self-portrait and painting a self-portrait of themselves.

*Practice drawing at home and talk about the details you are adding to your pictures. Look carefully at the shapes and make sure the children choose the correct colours for each object.*



## Physical Development

This half term the children will continue to spend time in our outdoor area where they can practice skills such as throwing and catching a ball, balancing on the stilts and controlling a football. In our PE lessons we will be working on balancing along a straight line and also holding a static balance.

*You can help your child by taking them on walks or to the park where they will gain strength and control. Playing with playdough, beads or threading are great for the fine motor skills needed for writing.*



After such a successful Christmas performance we will continue singing lots of songs this half term. The children will listen to different types of music in their lessons and talk about whether they like it and why, which instruments they can hear and what the structure of the music is. We will continue learning to find the pulse and deploring different instruments.

*Sing as much as you can with your child at home – songs are a great way to learn new words, understand melody and to have fun.*

## Understanding the World

During this half-term we will be learning about Neil Armstrong and why he is famous. We will take part in the Big Bird Watch and continue to look at how the seasons change. We will also learn about Askern and compare it to another place thinking about similarities and differences. In RE our topic is 'How do people celebrate?', we will be looking closely at celebrations and festivals to understand why other people have different special days and how they celebrate them.

*Talk to your child about the weather and the time it gets dark and light each day. Look for landmarks around Askern and if you visit another place, talk to them about how it is different to home.*

*Please remember the daily essentials:*



Your child's book bag containing their reading record, homework book and any books they currently have.



A water bottle – please do not put juice in your child's bottle, only water please.



A warm coat is essential now that the weather is cooling as well as your child's jumper or cardigan. Please ensure your child's name is written in all their belongings.



PE Kits must be brought to school every Monday and will remain in school until the end of the week. Your child should have a plain white t-shirt and black shorts.

