



Reception

Spring Term:



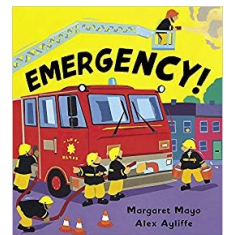
Welcome back and happy New Year! Our main theme this term is "People who help us". Alongside this we will be noticing the changes around us as Spring emerges. We will also be following the children's interests to inform our planning!

We will encourage the children to identify people in our community who help us. Using books and visitors to school we aim to find out more about their roles and what it involves.

If your job involves helping others or you have a suitable contact please get in touch to arrange a visit.

In the past we've had visits from vets, firefighters, nurses, dentists, a lollypop man, police officers, priests and doctors.

Last term we enjoyed making and playing in our bakery and library role play areas. We will ask the children what role play they would like to support our learning this term—it could be a post office, vets, doctors or something else entirely!



Birchanger Woods

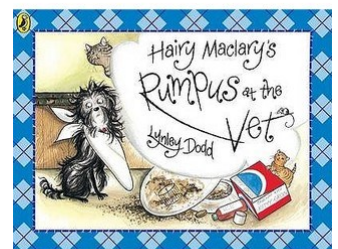
We will be visiting Birchanger Woods on Thursday 26th January in the morning for a woods walk. Both Reception and Nursery will be going. We will be going on a colour hunt and will be trying to spot different things in the woods. We will also be looking for signs of winter.

Communication and Language

We are continuing to use talking to inspire language development through story telling. Our first book linked to our theme is called Emergency! We are learning to explain what is happening, anticipate what might happen next and recall past experiences. New vocabulary will be explored and encouraged to use in context. Look out for key vocabulary shared on tapestry.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

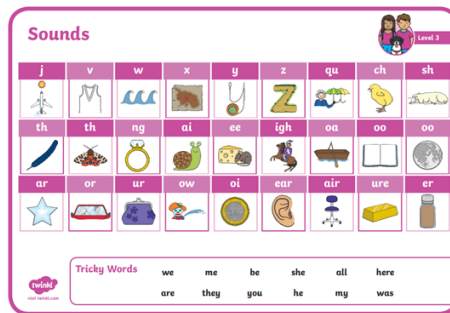
To develop our characteristics of effective learning we will explore our three dinosaur puppets who are brilliant role models: Tryasauras, Thinkosaurus and Explorasaurus. We will be discussing our school value of 'Resilience' and will be encouraging the children to be resilient with new challenges.



We also use the book Hairy Maclary's Rumpus at the Vets to explore vets and how they help animals. We will be discussing the feelings of characters in different stories and how they resolve problems and interact with each other.

Literacy

In phonics we are moving on to learn the level 3 sounds, developing confidence to blend to read and segment to spell. We will continue to send home weekly parent information sheets to share which new sounds we are learning plus the mini books to practise reading words with the new sounds.



Your child will continue to bring home a reading book (matched to their phonics ability) and a class library book each week. Please aim to hear your child read at least 3 times a week and write in the diary each time so that we know your child is reading at home. Regular reading makes such a difference, it really helps to build their confidence with blending, widens vocabulary and improves their fluency.

If any parents are able to volunteer to listen to children read in school regularly please let us know!

Poems and Rhymes

Singing, reciting nursery rhymes and enjoying books is an integral part of our daily provision. We regularly sing songs and nursery rhymes and aim to build our repertoire of poems. Last term we learnt and performed some Autumn themed Poems. Our core poems this term are Popcorn, I can Build a Snowman and Furry Furry Squirrel. Performances will be shared on Tapestry!

Mathematics

We will be extending our mathematical knowledge by looking at numbers up to 10 and identifying numbers that are more and less than a given number. We will be combining groups to make a new total and finding ways to record our workings out. Using our theme, we will be comparing sizes, length, capacity and weight. We will also introduce 3D shape vocabulary.



Understanding of the World

We will be finding out about different occupations through role play, books and people visiting us!

We will be using our investigation skills to find the properties of different materials, especially things that can float to build a raft and things that are waterproof to keep us dry.

We will be learning about the Chinese New Year festival and how people in different parts of the world celebrate.

If you celebrate Chinese New Year we would love to hear from you—please get in touch !

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be concentrating on using different media and combining them to make new effects. We will be making walkie talkies for people who help us and use musical instruments to compose music to make us think about sirens and emergencies!

We will be learning how to give and receive constructive feedback about our art work in order to improve our techniques.