

Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reception Spring Term Update

We have had a very busy first half term. The children have achieved a great deal we are now attending all assemblies and we have even mastered getting changed for PE! The children are now able to respond to the register and tell me what they want for lunch so they do not need to self register in the morning. We have also been busy collecting house points this term and the children are very pleased with their achievements. We still need your help with 'WOW' slips particularly around the themes of family customs and routines. Please share with us all the things you celebrate at home and prompt your children to tell us about it. It is an important early learning goal which you are experts at developing!



Many children have now started the next phase of our Read Write Inc Programme. They may come home talking about 'Ditty Groups' and the books they are reading. This phase concentrates on applying their phonic knowledge and practising writing letters, words and sentences.

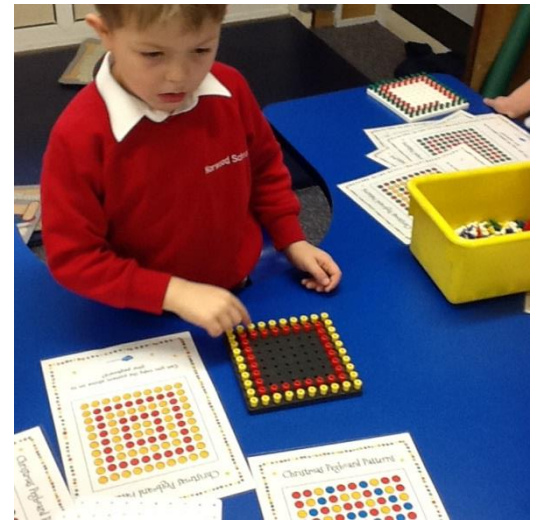
The children have really enjoyed our topics this term. Our Cold and Ice theme really captivated the children's imagination especially role playing in our igloo! The children learnt about animals of the Arctic and Antarctic, weather and hibernation. The children really enjoyed making bird feeders and building igloos outside. They were certainly fascinated with the freezing process wanting to take creatures home to freeze. You were all certainly better at freezing than me I managed to put a whole bag of water in the freezer with a hole in it!! The whole contents of

the freezer needed defrosting!

Many children also made fact files, looking through books for information. We also painted snow pictures.

The launch of superheroes certainly created a buzz of excitement. It was lovely to see the children sharing their knowledge, they were definitely the experts. It has been great to see the progress the children have made with their writing as they were very keen to make books and label pictures. We also saw lots of labels for their superhero models. We have been working very hard on our number recognition and formation (please keep on with practising at home it really helps). The children are confidently counting forwards and backwards to 20. We have also just introduced number sentences for addition and subtraction.

Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday helped us to understand ordinal



numbers and we particularly enjoyed pancake races and handing out 1st, 2nd and 3rd places!

We have continued to work on friendships and getting along with each other. You will probably hear lots about 'kind hands', 'kind feet' and 'kind words'. Finally the children have been fantastic in PE. They never cease to amaze me; they are certainly confident and competent movers!

Next half term we are looking forward to continuing the learning journey. We will be looking at the books by the author Julia Donaldson in preparation for our performance at The Voyager School. For those parents who are new to Norwood the whole school puts on a performance around a given theme, this year it is Giants. We will be looking at the book 'The smartest giant in town'. The date for this performance is **Monday 21st March 2016**.



Here are the targets we are working towards next term:

- To write own name with correct formation and a capital letter at the start.
- To recognise all our sounds and write them.
- To read CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words e.g. mad, tap, dad, bin.
- To count 1- 20 forwards and backwards reliably and recognise and write numbers 1-20.
- Recognise the following shapes square, circle, rectangle, triangle, cube, cuboid, cylinder, sphere and be able to talk about properties e.g number of sides, faces and vertices (corners).
- To measure using length, weight and capacity.
- Halving and doubling to 10.
- To practise retelling stories of their making.
- To get changed independently and fasten their coats.
- Reading at home.

If you feel your child has already achieved these you could support us by:

- Halving and doubling to 20
- Recognise more complex shapes e.g. pentagon, hexagon, square based pyramid, triangular based pyramid, prism and be able to talk about properties e.g number of sides, faces and and vertices(corners)
- Measuring using standard units e.g. centimetres, grams and millilitres
- Number sentences with missing numbers e.g. $? + ? = 10$ or $? + 3 = 15$ or $? + ? + ? = 12$
- Writing CVC words independently and simple sentences e.g. the cat sat on the mat

Please could we ask that the children do not bring toys into school. We are now inundated with various creatures and children are constantly arguing or crying over them!!! We have lots in school that they can enjoy.

Finally we have just gone over to an electronic learning journal for the children which you have access to. The website is <http://tapestry.info/>

You will need to enter your e mail address and a password. The password will be sent home this week in your child's book bag. I hope this will allow you to follow your child's learning journey and add comments if you wish to. We have certainly enjoyed capturing your child's achievements. There is also an App if you are an Apple user. Please keep the 'WOW' slips going at home for any new observations, these are really valuable.

Useful websites;

<http://www.juliadonaldson.co.uk/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThZqDoJi5S0>

<http://www.gruffalo.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAwrUmIwCo0>

Thank you for all your support.

Mrs Hainsworth
Class Teacher

Miss Greenwood
Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs Woods
Teaching Assistant

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

