



Reception Newsletter – Spring 1

Phonics – This half term, we will be starting to learn the remaining sounds of the alphabet, and then learning digraphs. Digraphs are two letters that make one sound like 'ai' as in 'rain'. The children will continue to learn tricky words that cannot be sounded out. Your child will be reading and writing words to practise the sounds that they are learning. We will be starting the new phonics scheme that I discussed in the phonics Parents information evening. Mrs Jenkins will be sharing more information about this. The new scheme means that we will be taking part in focused reading sessions three times a week in school. We will be changing 'Reading for Pleasure' books in the library every **Monday**. Your child will only need their book bags on a Monday. We will not be continuing with the Phonic Books, but I will keep you informed if you can support your child at home in other ways.

PE – PE is on a **Tuesday** morning. Please can your child wear their PE kit to school, but bring their uniform to change into? In PE, we will be doing Dance in the hall.

Jigsaw – In our Personal, Social and Emotional sessions, we will be thinking about 'Dreams and Goals'. This will be taught through stories and circle times, as well as reinforcing and modelling our school 5R values during the day – respect, reflect, resourcefulness, relationship and resilience.

Big Idea – The school Big Idea this half term is 'Why should we respect our Planet?'. In Reception, we loosely follow the Big Idea and go with the flow and interests of the children. We will spark their interest through stories such as 'Somebody swallowed Stanley' – Sarah Roberts, 'The toothbrush story' – M.G Leonard and 'Love our world' – Jane Cabrera.

Maths – This half term, we will be looking at the numbers 6 – 10 in detail and how to make these numbers in different ways. We will be looking at shapes with the number of sides up to 10 such as Hexagons and Octagons. We will be looking at money to the value of 10p. We will also be thinking about measuring weight and using the correct vocabulary such as heavy, light, heaviest, lightest.

Outdoor Learning – When the weather gets warmer, we will venture into our Forest every **Friday** for some outdoor learning. Your child will need appropriate clothing to change into. Their wellies will be in school, but waterproofs are usually needed. Trousers or leggings would be a good idea to wear to protect legs from the brambles and nettles. I will let you know when we decide to start up Outdoor learning in the Forest again. Reception officially have Forest School in Summer Term.

Reading – Books will be changed on a **Monday**. Each child will bring home one 'Reading for Pleasure' book that they can snuggle up and listen to. You will then have access to virtual reading books. The details for this will be shared with you by Miss Jenkins. We will read the same book in school. We would then like your child to read the book at least a couple of times a week to develop their fluency, expression and comprehension of the story. Reading the books also reinforces the sounds that the children are reading at school.

Other news –

The first week of the half term is RE week. We will be the Christian and Islamic creation story.

We have Miss Mackin starting with us in January. She will be supporting us in Reception every Monday and Friday.

Mrs Taylor – m.taylor@meadowsideacademy.org



The mindful approach to P.S.H.E.

Reception

CD	Knowledge	Social and Emotional Skills	Questions for Family Learning
<p>Ages 3-5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know what being proud means and that people can be proud of different things • Know that people can be good at different things • Know what being unique means • Know that families can be different • Know that people have different homes and why they are important to them • Know different ways of making friends • Know different ways to stand up for myself • Know the names of some emotions such as happy, sad, frightened, angry • Know that they don't have to be 'the same as' to be a friend • Know why having friends is important • Know some qualities of a positive friendship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify feelings associated with being proud • Identify things they are good at • Be able to vocalise success for themselves and about others successes • Identify some ways they can be different and the same as others • Recognise similarities and differences between their family and other families • Identify and use skills to make a friend • Identify and use skills to stand up for themselves • Recognise emotions when they or someone else is upset, frightened or angry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you say how you are different from a friend? • Can you say how you are the same as a friend? • What makes a family? • What makes you proud? • What are you good at doing? • Are all families the same? • What can you do to make a friend? • How can you tell when someone is feeling sad, angry or upset? • If someone is making you feel sad or upset what can you do about it? • Shall we share a Calm Me time?
<p>In this Puzzle (unit) children are encouraged to think about things that they are good at whilst understanding that everyone is good at different things. They talk about being different and how that makes everyone special but also recognising that we are the same in some ways. The children talk about their homes and are asked to explain why it is special to them. They talk about friendship and how to be a kind friend and how to stand up for themselves if someone says or does something unkind to them.</p>			
<p>Key Vocabulary Different, Special, Proud, Friends, Kind, Same, Similar, Happy, Sad, Frightened, Angry, Family.</p>			