

Early Year Unit: Reception Newsletter – Summer 1

Welcome

Thank you to everyone for your support last term and for the wonderful parents consultation meetings. I hope you enjoyed seeing the progress that your children have made so far this year. It was great to show you how hard your children have been working. Thank you for attending our Easter session at the end of the term. It was lovely to see how many of you joined our celebrations.

Summer 1 Focus

This term, the children will be learning about Kings and Queens'. The children will learn about our monarch, King Charles III and they will become familiar with some key people in the Royal Family. We will explore different royal building such as Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. The children will learn that a monarch has a coronation ceremony. We will then learn about King John and the Magna Carta, so the children understand that Kings and Queens can't do whatever they want. Finally, the children learn about our government and our Prime Minister, exploring how this impacts the area we live in.



Phonics

During this term, we will be continuing to use our assessments to ensure your child is getting targeted phonics teaching. We will be focusing on phase 3 and 4 of the Little Wandle scheme. Your children will be learning how to read words with 2 or more diagraphs and be introduced to a new set of high frequency words. Please visit our school website to get up-to-date information about phonics at Hazel Leys.



<https://www.hazelleysacademy.org/page/?title=Phonics&pid=219>

Literacy - Writing

During this term we will continue to work with the children as they develop their own ideas for writing. We will be continuing to expect the children to listen to sounds independently in order to try and write words that they want. We will also be looking for the children to use finger spaces and full stops in their sentences.



Our written work will be linked to the wide range of books that we share as a class, such as 'Meet the King', 'The King's Coronation' and 'If I were Prime Minister'.

In addition to this, children will continue with their daily independent writing as we continue to develop our sentence's structure focus. In preparation for the end of Reception, we are working towards the children writing simple sentences by themselves, which matches their phonetic knowledge.

Literacy - Reading

Your child will continue to take part in 4 reading lessons a week where they will learn how to decode word, read with prosody and develop their comprehension. Books are changed weekly with the new book being sent home on a Friday after we have read it in school.



Please read the book repeatedly to help your child develop their confidence, fluency, and comprehension. Don't forget to **write in their reading records** to let us know when they have been reading at home.

Your child will still choose a 'Reading for Pleasure' book to take home at the end of each week. This is a book to be shared with the adults at home. There is no expectation that they can read this book independently.

Maths

During this term, we will be exploring numbers over 10. We will look at how numbers are made with tens and ones to establish their early understanding of place value. We will continue to use numicon, ten frames and part-part-whole models for children to see how a number can be made, linking it to simple addition and subtraction facts.



Communication and Language

This term we will continue to retell stories in a variety of ways, ensuring that the children take on different roles. Children will be taught subject specific vocabulary so that they can use it accurately when talking about the Royal family and castles.



We offer multiply, daily opportunities for the children to talk, share ideas and use new language in all areas of their learning. Our role play opportunities will include acting out a coronation, being a palace guard and hosting a Royal tea party!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, we are looking at building positive relationships with the people around us. This includes how to be a good friend, sharing and turn taking. We will also be giving the children plenty of opportunities to work in a team, which allows them to practice their communication and compromising skills. We will also look at how the children can be respectful to the environment around them, such as caring for wildlife and keeping our school clean.



Physical Development

We will be continuing to develop our fine motor skills through weekly fine motor provision and a weekly Get Squiggling session to strengthen body control, hand grip and pencil control.



Our **PE lessons** are still on a **Wednesday**. Please could all children attend school in their PE kit.

Children need to have an Academy PE t-shirt, shorts or jogging bottoms/leggings depending on the weather and an Academy Jumper. All children must be wearing trainers. Please also ensure they **do not wear any jewellery and that long hair is tied back**.

Understanding the World

This term we will be learning about our Royal family and the role they play in our world. The children will have the opportunity to role play being a King or Queen. They will learn about the different features of a castle and will take part in lots of construction activities to design and build their own castle/palace. As we learn about the Government, the children will be able to take part in lots of voting activities to show them the importance of everyone having a choice when it comes to a vote.



Expressive Arts and Design

We will be making lots of artwork that link to our Kings and Queens stories, including making crowns, designing castles, painting portraits of the Royal family and making swords and shields. The children will be able to range of materials to create their art work, including paint, crayons, tissue paper, clay, Papier Mache and other natural resources.



Helping your child learn at home

- Daily reading using your child’s school reading book and ‘Reading for Pleasure’ book
- Encourage your child to practice reading and writing high frequency words.
- Get them to recognise numbers around the, E.G door number and give them many opportunities for counting, such as counting out forks for dinner.



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people. Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Wareing

Teaching Assistants: Miss Witton and Mrs Clough

- Please check **Evidence Me** regularly for updates on what we are doing in Reception!
- Please could all children **arrive at school by 8:40am** as learning starts promptly at this time. The gate by the classroom is open from 8:30am and will be closed at 8:40am. Children who are late miss out on the start of our daily learning and disturb the children who have arrived on time.
- Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you **do not** put anything in that contains nuts and to make it a healthy selection of food.
- Please could children be prepared for their forest school sessions **every Thursday**. Children must be in clothes that you do not mind getting dirty and that **are suitable for the seasonal weather**. Please make sure your child has a waterproof coat or suit and wellies, which can be left at school.



Thank you for your support with these matters.

Dates for the diary!



Monday 21st April – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 22nd April – School reopens to pupils

Thursday 24th April – Wonderdome visit



Monday 5th May – Bank Holiday

Monday 12th to Thursday 15th May – KS2 SATs

Wednesday 14th May – Rocking Castle Trip

Monday 19th to Friday 23rd May - Walk to school week

Wednesday 21st May – Foundation subject parent drop-in sessions

Friday 23rd May - School closes to pupils for Half Term