



Who's hiding in the jungle?

Autumn 1



Welcome to all our new children and parents, and welcome back to those who were in our nursery last year. We hope that you all had a lovely summer and are ready for the exciting year ahead of us.

Our topic this half-term is **JUNGLES**. We will be investigating which animals live in the jungle, what their habitat is like and what they like to eat, amongst other things. Lots of the children's learning will be through stories, role play, music and art. They will be encouraged to share their understanding, as they engage with learning actively, exploring and developing their confidence as they learn.

Your support

In Reception, we will be working on our **phonics** sounds every day. To support this learning, the children will bring home worksheets which relate to the sounds they have learnt. These do not have to be returned to school, but will help your children embed what they have learnt and help you to know what they are learning. In time, we hope that all children will develop a love of reading. If possible, please help to support this at home by reading to your child every night. We would encourage you to make use of our class library to borrow from our selection of fiction and non-fiction books.



Another important literacy element to develop children's vocabulary and understanding of rhythm and rhyme is poetry. We will be sending home a Poetry Journal to all Reception children each week, containing a Nursery Rhyme or poem for you to enjoy and read with your child.

In **maths**, our focus on 'number' will include daily counting, recognition of numbers, formation of numbers and ordering them reliably. In 'space, shape and measures' we will concentrate on pattern building, ordering and sequencing, together with shape recognition and properties of shape. To further support the children's learning, Reception children will bring home maths-related tasks to develop their understanding. It would also assist your child if you encourage daily practice of counting and help them to recognise and form numbers, so that they are able to develop confidence in maths.

In our pre-nursery, we will be focusing on settling the children into the environment and following their interests to support their learning. We will support their personal, social and emotional development, encouraging relationships to develop through shared experiences. We will be baking, reading lots of stories, singing songs and rhymes, amongst other things, to support our development in maths and literacy.

Clothing

The children spend a lot of their time in the outside learning areas and they have a wonderful time learning through the activities prepared for them. Please make sure that





your child is always dressed appropriately for all weather situations, including sensible footwear. Having a coat in school every day means they will never miss out on our outdoor provision. Please ensure that your child's entire uniform is clearly named to avoid losing items of clothing.

P.E.

Reception children should bring a named P.E. kit consisting of navy blue shorts and a white t-shirt in a named bag. When participating in P.E. indoors, the children do so in bare feet. However, weather permitting, we also do P.E. outside, so your child will need trainers or pumps. To support their growing independence, outdoor footwear with velcro straps is ideal, so children can change their shoes independently. Please ensure they have their PE kit in school all week, so that they are able to participate in all P.E. sessions.

Contributions

We have a contributions box in the classroom, which helps to fund any baking we do with the children, our 'Friday treat' and any extras we may need for craft activities. We are always grateful for any contributions.

We are always on the lookout for cardboard boxes and other recyclable materials including buttons, ribbons, paper and card. If you have any that you do not need at any time throughout the year, please bring them in.

Reminders

- Please send your child with a labelled set of spare clothes, which can stay on their peg should it be required.
- Please send your child with a water bottle that they can drink from throughout the day. Only water is allowed in water bottles; however, juice may be brought as part of your child's packed lunch.
- Please do not allow your child to bring their own toys to school. Things can be broken or go missing very easily, so to prevent any upset it is best that any personal belongings are left at home.
- Please help your child to learn to put on their coat and shoes to support growing independence.
- Pushchairs must be left outside the classroom during morning drop off.

Dates for your diary

18th September - Training day - SCHOOL CLOSED
19th September - Mr Shuffles disco
21st September - Harvest Festival at St Mary's *
25th September - RE themed week
27th September - Parents' open morning
29th September - Performance poetry workshops
5th October - Parents' themed week assembly **
20th October - Child of Achievement assembly **
20th October - 30th October HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS
30th October - Training day - SCHOOL CLOSED
31st October - School re-opens
1st November - Parents' evening
2nd November - Parents' evening

* Family Unit children will not be attending

** Please check nearer the time to see whether your child will be attending

