

EYFS Class News



Spring Term 2023 – 2024

Welcome to the Spring term in Nursery and Reception at NPA. We'd like to send a warm welcome to our new children and their families who have joined our Nursery; we're so pleased to have you with us. The following newsletter will highlight everything you need to know for the Spring term.

Our theme for this term is **'If you go down to the woods today...'**. We will be learning about woodland habitats, the plants and animals that can be found in them and also sharing stories that are set in the woods. We very much value your contributions to our theme and welcome any suggestions or possible questions to answer; please complete the ideas slip as part of your child's homework.

EYFS Spring Curriculum 2023

Communication and Language

We will be reading frequently to the children, engaging them in stories and non-fiction books and providing them with lots of opportunities to embed new vocabulary. In Nursery, we will be focusing on learning songs and nursery rhymes and using longer sentences. Children in Reception will be encouraged to engage in longer conversations using their new vocabulary linked to our theme.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

With our younger children, we will be working with them to develop their sense of responsibility and feeling of belonging within our school community and developing new friendships. In Reception, using the 'My Happy Mind' programme, children will be learning about parts of their brain and learning 'Happy Breathing' techniques to help self-regulate their emotions.

Physical Development

The children will be spending a lot of time outside which is great for developing their gross motor skills with our climbing equipment, bikes and trikes, gravel pit and space to run. Our weekly PE sessions (on a Monday) will begin with a **dance unit and then onto ball skills after half-term**. We will also be developing the children's fine motor skills with 'Dough Disco'. 'Squiggle Whilst you wiggle' and lots of repeated and varied opportunities to develop their control and confidence with their hands.

Literacy

Reception children will continue their daily phonics lessons. This half-term we will be learning even more digraphs and how to read longer words and words with double letters. We will continue to send home weekly overviews of what they have learnt each week. In writing, we will be teaching children how to write simple captions with capital letters, finger spaces and full stops as well as practising our segmenting of words. Children in Nursery will be developing their phonological awareness with lots of listening games, rhyme and alliteration and will be encouraged to use a range of mark-marking tools and materials. The older Nursery children will be learning to identify the initial sounds in words through lots of fun games.

Mathematics:

This term, Nursery children will be perfecting their 1:1 counting and subitising up to three objects. They will then explore shape, sorting and sequencing as well as learning to use everyday directional language.

Reception children will start the term learning about counting and ordering numbers backwards before learning how to partition numbers. They will also be exploring number bonds and height and length.

Understanding the World

We will be learning about the changing of seasons from Winter to Spring and observing how our outside environment changes. We will be investigating how our environment differs to other places and comparing it to a woodland environment.

Class Dojo

We also use ClassDojo to share our learning in EYFS. We post to Class Story regularly and share learning on individual portfolios. You are very welcome to upload to your child's portfolio to share special occasions, days out, learning at home – we like to share these moments with the children! This is also the main way to contact us in EYFS using the messaging function.

Staff members – Who's who in EYFS

Mrs Turner and Miss Taylor are the class teachers; Miss Taylor works Monday and Tuesday in EYFS and in other classes throughout the week. Mrs Turner works Wednesday to Friday. Miss Foster, Miss Alcott, Mrs Bird and Miss Dale are our teaching assistants. This term we are joined by Mrs Wilson, a specialist language teaching assistant and Miss Edge, an associate teacher from the University of Chester.

Homework

We provide tasks to complete that are linked to our learning in school. We make these enjoyable things to do together with your child. Please ensure that homework books are bought into school each Wednesday – this is to allow us to look at any tasks completed, share it with the rest of class and award ClassDojo points. Books will be returned by the end of the week. Homework can also be uploaded onto ClassDojo portfolio.

Reading diaries/Reading books

Each child will have a reading diary and a 'Love to Read' book for home reading. When you share books at home with your child, do write in the diary as we can then reward your child for their efforts with Dojos and book rewards. Children in Reception bring home a phonics book matched to their phonics stage which they have already read in school – practising this book at home will allow them to become a more fluent reader. Along with practising tricky words, a little bit on time spent on reading daily will have a hugely positive impact on your child's learning; try to aim for at least three times per week.

Snack

Children in Nursery and Reception receive a piece of toast each morning when they come into school; this is charged at £1 per week and the money also contributes to other consumables such as ingredients for baking or playdough. The children have fruit and milk as a mid-morning snack – the milk is provided for free up until your child's 5th birthday. If you wish for your child to continue having milk after this, you can pay online for this.

PE Kit and Uniform

PE sessions for Nursery and Reception will be on a **Monday** – please send your child to school in their PE kit. The children are always very active in EYFS and spend a lot of time in our outside area – please ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the weather.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak (or send a Dojo message) to any member of the Early Years Team.

Mrs Turner, Miss Taylor, Mrs Bird, Miss Foster, Miss Alcott and Miss Dale