



Reception Curriculum Newsletter **Spring Term 2025 (first half)**

Dear Parents & Carers

We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and created lots of happy memories with family and friends. We would all like to thank you for the cards and gifts we received in the lead up to Christmas – they were thoughtful and generous and are greatly appreciated – thank you.

Our Learning

We will start this half term with learning about dinosaurs, including the texts 'Dinosaur Roar' by Paul and Henrietta Stickland and 'Dear Dinosaur' by Chae Strathie. In addition, we will be learning about how the world has changed since the time of the dinosaurs and about Mary Anning, the fossil hunter.

We will then look at people in our community who help us, such as firefighters, police, dentists, doctors, etc. if you have a job or hobby where you help others, or know of someone who does, we would love you to come and talk to the children. Anything from a few minutes sharing a photo or a quick explanation to a short demonstration or other activity would be fantastic. **Please talk to one of us if you think you can help in any way.**

Unnamed Clothes

At the end of last term, we had a great number of new, unnamed uniform and other belongings which were unclaimed. Please ensure that ALL your children's belongings are clearly named so we can ensure that these are returned to you. Please be aware that stickers and iron on labels can peel off, particularly if they go in a tumble dryer.

Tapestry

We use the Tapestry learning platform to record moments of active learning or to share experiences and activities with you. Many learning experiences in Reception are not written or recorded on paper but occur in a practical way, evidenced via Tapestry. Tapestry is an app which can be downloaded on to a phone or iPad and photos and comments can be easily added. It would be great for this to be a joint effort from home and school to make a holistic and informative journal of your child's early learning, so if your child does anything that you would like to share with us, please add it to Tapestry and we will discuss it with the children at school.

Assemblies

The children will now be attending assemblies with the rest of the school. This includes a 'Golden Pupil' assembly which happens every 3 weeks on a Friday afternoon. During this assembly children from each class are awarded a special 'Golden Pupil' certificate for their learning. In addition, there are special awards which a child may receive during their time at The Round House, which are awarded to any pupil in the school, including the 'Diamond Learner Award', 'Achievement Cup' and 'Manners Award'. If your child is going to be awarded any of these accolades you will be invited to join us for the assembly.

Mystery Readers

The children like to listen to stories, which is an important part of their education. During this term we would like to encourage parents, guardians or grandparents to come and read a story to the children so that they are exposed to different voices, accents and expressions as we'd love you to bring in a story of your choice to share. We prefer not to tell the children so that it is a surprise for them – some of the reactions are fantastic! If you'd like to take part, please let us know quietly at the door at the start or end of the day or email the school office. The preferred time for this is at the end of the day at 2.45pm but we will do our best to accommodate so please let us know if another time is better for you.

Supporting Your Child at Home

Letter Formation

At The Round House, we help the children to develop a pre-cursive handwriting style. This enables them to move smoothly into a joined script later in school. All the children have login details for 'Letter-join' in the front of their reading records which has interactive games and activities to help them form the letters correctly.

Reading

Please read as regularly as possible with your child at home. After reading their phonic book, please record this in their reading diary including the date, the name of the book and a signature from the adult who has read with them. The number of reads will be counted up at the end of every week, so it is important the children have their reading diary and their books with them each day so they can be changed. At the end of each week, children who have read 5 times or more are entered into a raffle to award the 'Reader of the Week'. The children also have guided reading sessions three times a week with their teacher and are regularly assessed to see if they are ready to move to a new reading level.

NumBots

Please support your child to interact and engage with NumBots which supports the development of your child's mathematical understanding. Log in details should be at the front of the reading record.

Reminders

P.E.

This term the children will have P.E. on **Thursday afternoons** with Mr Franco. Please ensure that you provide a fully named P.E. kit (navy shorts and plain white t shirt for inside and navy joggers, jumper or hoody and trainers for outside). Sessions will be

mainly inside this term. P.E. kits can remain in school for the duration of the half term unless you wish to take it home. If you do so, please ensure that a spare change of clothes is left in school should a child have a wet accident or be involved in messy play.

If your child has pierced ears, please ensure that their earrings are removed on P.E. days for health and safety reasons. Long hair should always be tied up whilst the children are at school and especially during P.E. lessons. If your child has borrowed a school P.E. kit (marked with RH, please return it asap).

Uniform

It has been noticed that some children are coming in to school wearing items which are not compliant with our school uniform policy. Please ensure your child is wearing a grey school skirt, school trousers or pinafore dress – they should not be wearing leggings or jogging bottoms. They should have a white or sky-blue polo shirt and black school shoes – not boots or trainers. Thank you for your support with this.

Spare School Clothes

If your child is likely to have a wet accident or get muddy or wet during outside play, please provide them with a spare change of clothes. If your child has been sent home in spare school clothes (often marked with RH) please return these to school washed as soon as possible.

Outdoor Learning

The children work both inside the classroom and in the outdoor area every day, regardless of the weather. Please ensure that they have a warm waterproof coat, gloves, hat and a **pair of wellies** to keep their feet both clean and dry during the forthcoming winter months. We ask that the children keep their wellies at school during term time. Exploring the outdoor area and our forest school sessions play a huge part in our curriculum and we will be investigating how the outside environment changes throughout the year.

Water Bottles








Children need to bring a **named** water bottle to school **every day** which they are encouraged to drink from regularly. We would be grateful if water bottles could be carried to and from school separately instead of being put inside the children's book bags, as some home reading books are being ruined by water leaking out of the water bottles.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support.

The EYFS Team

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 <p style="text-align: center;">Communication and Language</p> <p>Through looking at a variety of texts the children will continue to learn and use new vocabulary. They will continue to articulate their thoughts and ideas in well-formed sentences and use a range of connectives. The children will also retell familiar stories.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Physical Development</p> <p>The children will continue to revise and refine their fundamental movement skills. They will confidently and safely use a range of large and small apparatus indoors and outside, alone and in a group. They will also continue to develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p> <p>The children will continue to build constructive and respectful relationships with peers and adults and express their own feelings as well as considering the feelings of others. While learning about 'people who help us', the children will learn about how to look after their own bodies and how to be a safe pedestrian.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">Literacy</p> <p>Reading In their own reading and in guided sessions the children will continue to blend sounds into words and answer questions to demonstrate their understanding of what they have read.</p> <p>Writing Children will be continuing to work on correct letter formation and writing simple words and sentences using their phonics knowledge to sound out words. Some children will be beginning to write short sentences using a capital letter and full stop and re-read what they have written to check that it makes sense.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Mathematics</p> <p>The children will continue to work on counting objects, actions and sounds and subitising. They will also be linking the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal number value and comparing numbers. They will be comparing length, weight and capacity and looking at time in simple routines.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Understanding the World</p> <p>The children will talk about the members of their immediate and extended families as well as people who help them in many different ways in our community. They will continue to explore the natural world around them, describing what they see and hear and understanding the effect of changing seasons on the world around them.</p>
 <p style="text-align: right;">Expressive Arts and Design</p> <p>The children will be exploring, using and refining a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. They will also be creating collaboratively sharing ideas, resources and skills.</p>		