



What's happening in Reception this half term?

Spring 1: Heroes



Topic

This half term we will be completing the topic 'Heroes'; this will include real life heroes such as emergency service and key workers, and fictional superheroes. We hope to welcome some visitors to school to talk to us about their jobs and the important roles that they play in society! If you are an emergency services or key worker and would be willing to visit the children for a short talk about what you do, please let your child's class teacher know as we would love for some parents to share with us about your roles!

We will be taking part in role-play and reading and writing about different superhero stories including 'Supertato' and 'The three little superpigs'. The children will continue to have opportunities to explore different areas of learning both inside and outside, and will begin to think about signs of winter as well as going on a local winter walk- dates to follow soon!

We will be holding a superhero dress up day to celebrate the end of the topic; this will be on **Friday 9th February**. This could be a real life or fictional character so get your thinking caps on! As always we do not expect you to rush out and buy a costume, items that you have at home will be fine!

What are we learning in Literacy?

- To continue to practise correct letter formation, including our names- please ensure that capital letters are only used for the start of names and not throughout!
- To learn and apply the sounds taught in phonics. We will begin to teach Phase 3 of 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds' including the digraphs- **ai, ee, igh, oa, oo oo (book, zoo), ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er**
- To use the phonemes they can hear to read and to write a variety of simple words
- To recognise and begin to spell the tricky words- **was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure**
- To begin to understand the elements of a story e.g. characters, main events, beginnings and endings

What are we learning in Mathematics?

When Mrs. Finch gave her welcome and maths talks during Autumn 1, she spoke at length about how the current early years curriculum requires children to understand numbers in depth, rather than just superficially. The children did a brilliant job of learning about the value and composition of numbers to 5 before the break, and we will be moving on to our next set of numbers.

- To recognise numerals 6,7,8 and to count objects to match these
- To recognise different representations of these numbers, e.g. with numerals, tallies, dominoes, numicon, number blocks
- To know how each number 6,7,8 is composed (e.g. that 6 can be made with 3 + 3, or 4 + 2)

- Begin to know and use number rhymes for number formation

We will continue to expose the children to counting beyond this, such as our daily counting to 10 and beyond and through the use of number rhymes and songs.

Physical Development

Physical Development continues to take place across our environment on a daily basis, and includes both large and small motor skill activities, such as climbing in the playground, running, playing games, creating obstacles, riding bikes and scooters... the list is endless! We will have opportunities for these throughout the week and during our Physical Development afternoon every Friday.

Pupils will continue to complete a variety of fine motor activities called 'Fiddly Fingers' each day, which include tasks such as threading, stacking, screwing and twisting items, stamping, scissor skills, tracing skills, playdough... activities such as these help to develop your child's control in their hands in preparation for building strength and stamina for writing.

Safety Curriculum

This half term we will be exploring Road safety and School safety within our PSED sessions, including the following objectives-

Safety- Stranger Danger

I know that I should stay with my adult when I am out and about

I know that I should not go anywhere with a stranger.

I know which adults are 'safe strangers' (e.g. police shop workers wearing uniform, knowing what to do if I get lost from my adult)

Fire safety

I know what to do if the fire alarm goes off in school. I know the fire exit sign and how to leave a building if there is a fire.

I know that I should not put anything into an electrical socket.

What can you do at home to help your child with their learning?

- Listen to your child read his/her reading book and comment in their diary at least 5 x per week- remember that your child needs to read at least 25 times out of a possible 30 during the half term in order to be invited to our reading celebration events!
- Make puppets using lolly sticks or kitchen rolls at home. This will give your child a chance to retell any of the stories they have been learning about!
- Keep helping your child to practise their handwriting. Try writing it in sand, shaving foam or mousse – hours of fun!
- Practise writing your child's name correctly- many children are writing their whole name with capital letters, but capitals should only be used for the start letter.
- Encourage writing for a real purpose such as thank you letters, cards, shopping lists or notes.

- Keep counting groups of objects of up to 10 and ask your child what is 1 more/less than the number in the group.
- **Please help your child to become more independent with dressing and changing themselves, this includes putting on jumpers/cardigans and coats and learning to do up fastenings such as zips, buttons and popper! This is an important part of their physical development!**

Important dates for your diary

Tue 2 nd January	INSET day
Wed 3 rd January	Return to school
Wed 10 th January	4.15-5pm- Reading celebration event by invitation only
Mon 29 th January Thur 1 st February	Parents evening- appointments to follow shortly
Fri 9 th February	Superhero dress up day

Wow moments

Please look out for any 'wow moment' slips that we may send home in your child's book bag. Your child's learning at home provides great evidence of what they can do and these notes get added to their learning journeys, so please do complete and return these when you receive them! This can be any area of learning, such as communication and language, reading, writing, mathematics, creative development, physical development or understanding of the world.

Name: _____
Date: _____





We would love to hear about your child's learning at home, tell us how great they have been!

WOW! Moment at home

As we have already mentioned, if you have a query or need to talk to your child's class teacher please do phone the school office and we will get back to you asap, or we can be contacted with non-urgent enquiries on the class email addresses below-

Mrs. Finch- owls@sholinginfantschool.org.uk

Miss. Cooper- hedgehogs@sholinginfantschool.org.uk

Mrs. Welford- rabbits@sholinginfantschool.org.uk

Happy New Year!

The Reception Team xxx

Number Rhymes

1

Top to bottom then it's done, this is the way we make a 1

2

A curl for me and a line for you, this is the way we make a 2

3

A curl for you and a curl for me, this is the way we make a 3

4

Down and across and then one more, this is the way we make a 4

5

Hat on top, take a dive, round we go, that makes a 5

6

Stir it round and give it a mix, this is the way we make a 6

7

Across and down, so easy its heaven, this is the way we make a 7

8

Make an s and close the gate, this is the way we make an 8

9

Round we go, then a line, this is the way we make a 9

10

Top to bottom, round again, this is the way we make a 10

