



Canon Burrows Primary School Reception Newsletter Spring 1



Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a lovely start to 2024 and that you and your families are well.

Our topic this half term is 'Why do we go on journeys?' Our core texts are 'The Train Ride' by June Crebbin and 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers, which will support our learning about how transport and landscapes have changed over time. Other texts we will be sharing this half term which support our topic are 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' and 'Mr Gumpy's Motorcar' by John Burningham. We will explore and draw maps alongside our learning about transport and landscapes and create a piece of artwork inspired by the artist Megan Coyle's landscape collages.

Please follow us on twitter @canon_burrows to see some of the fantastic learning opportunities the children are enjoying.

Spring 1 - Why do we go on journeys?

Communication and Language: This half term we will be encouraging the children to ask and answer why and how questions. In our café role play, children will be supported to use specific language to take orders and be encouraged to gain further detail. Children will listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding and will be practising the retelling of stories using story language to describe events in detail. Alongside this, we will be learning rhymes, poems and songs.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: We will be learning about two of the Canon Burrows Christian values - friendship and thankfulness - and children will practise different ways of showing these. We will celebrate differences and support them to identify and moderate their own feelings socially and emotionally. The children will be actively encouraged to think about their own feelings and those of others.

Physical Development: Children will continue to develop their fine motor skills in readiness for writing with a strong focus on using correct letter formation, both in their names and in independent writing. To support this, children will continue to take part in Dough Disco sessions and we will be monitoring how they are holding and using pencils, scissors, knives, forks and spoons. In addition, we will look to support the children to move with greater control and grace.

Phonics:

	Phase 3 graphemes	New tricky words
Week 1	ai ee igh oa	
Week 2	oo oo ar or	was you they
Week 3	ur ow oi ear	my by all
Week 4	air er words with double letters: dd mm tt bb rr gg pp ff	are sure pure
Week 5	longer words	

Literacy: Children will continue to practise oral blending and segmenting as they are taught the new Phase 3 phonemes. This will support both their reading and spelling of words. They will learn new tricky and high frequency words and will read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter sounds in. They will develop their confidence in writing words and even phrases independently.

Maths: Children will consolidate their learning about numbers 0-5 before moving on to 6, 7 and 8. They will again learn how to find, represent, compose and subitise these numbers. They will learn about making pairs (odd and even), doubling and combining two groups. They will also explore mass and capacity.

Understanding the World: Alongside our history learning about how transport and landscapes have changed over time and our geography learning about maps, we will consider where we would like to travel to in the world. We will hear the story of Amelia Earhart, the first woman to fly across the Atlantic. We will consider our impact on the planet during our ECO month of action in January. Towards the end of the half term, we will find out more about Chinese New Year. We will continue to explore the natural world, drawing and discussing the changes that we observe linked with the changes in seasons.

Expressive Arts and Design: Our artwork will be inspired by the landscape collages of Megan Coyle and we will be making our own representations of her work. We will learn a repertoire of songs for our Jack and the Beanstalk performance on 7th March, where we will join with other schools from across Greater Manchester to dress up and become part of the story. We will be continuing to support the children to begin to develop simple storylines in their pretend play.

RE: We will be introducing pupils to stories from the Old Testament and learning that Jesus would have heard these stories as He was growing up. We will also be exploring the stories that Jesus told and understanding that these are to teach us about God and how He would like us to live our lives.

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR RECEPTION

(Whole school dates are sent separately)

Thursday 7th March (next half term but a date for your diary!) - Jack and the Beanstalk performance at The Lighthouse Venue in Eccles. Children will learn songs and take part in the live performance alongside musicians, actors and children from other schools. They are invited to dress up as a character from the story, e.g. the beanstalk, Jack, Mum, Daisy the cow, the hen, the golden egg, etc. We will need your support to cover the cost of the coach and we will also need parent helpers to come with us! Look out for a letter soon.

Additional dates may be sent out during the half term. Please check Friday News and School Spider for any additional dates.

We are only at the end of the phone or email - if you have any concerns, please get in touch.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

Please check that labels on all clothes, book bags, coats, shoes, wellies and water bottles have not washed off and replace if required.



Please ensure your child has a warm coat, hat and gloves for the colder weather, as we will go outside come rain or snow.



Please send water bottles each day, filled with water only. On the advice of the dentist, cordial is not recommended apart from with meals. Please support us with this.



Please send book bags into school every day. The children visit the library every **Thursday** and will bring home a new library book each week (please do not put your child's water bottle inside in case of leakages!)



The school expectation is for children to read or be read to at least five times a week. Please record any reading you do at home in your child's reading diary.



Healthy snacks are provided in EYFS - please do not send your own.



Home learning tasks will be set on Fridays via Google Classrooms (login details will be sent this week). These are due the following Wednesday by 9am and will mostly be practical tasks requiring a photo or short comment.



Google Classroom

Warm wishes, the Reception team