

# Under the Sea- Reception - Spring Term 2024

## Literacy

In Literacy we will be reading *Little Whale* by Jo Weaver. The children will learn and use new vocabulary when speaking about the text and when describing how it makes them feel. We are aiming for the children to become more confident and independent writers and so we will be encouraging the children to plan and write their own simple sentences, with support, linked to this book and our topic 'Under the Sea'.

We would also like all children to be able to write their name without their name card.

Jo Weaver



In Science, we will be exploring hot and cold- including objects, animals and places.

## Maths

In Maths we are learning and securing our knowledge of numbers 1 to 10 and securing the following skills:

- Writing numbers 0 to 10
- Beginning to subitise to 10
- Knowing 1 more and 1 less than up to 10
- Use resources to work out number bonds to 10
- Exploring the composition of numbers to 10
- Count from 0 to 10
- Compose and decompose shapes recognising the different shapes within shapes
- Compare 3 objects based on length, width and capacity

## Art

This half term is all about PAINTING!

The children will be learning the skills of mixing powder paints to create new colours and using these in 'Under the Sea' masterpieces!

## Music

In Music, we are going to listen to lots of different instruments and try to match them to their names and what they look like.

## Phonics

The children have been working so hard in their daily Phonics lessons. They have learned all the sounds in Phase 2 and they are trying hard to recognise the tricky words- I the no go to into. If your child recognises all these tricky words by sight, then they will be reading a Phase 2 book at home. Please continue to practise reading at home with your child, it really does make all the difference! We change books weekly to build fluency when reading.

This term the children will be learning even more tricky words- and they do get quite tricky! Any words your child is struggling to read by sight, as these words cannot be decoded, we will provide extra practise at school and these words will be recorded on your child's book mark. Again, please continue to practise reading these at home. The children will also be learning to read words containing digraphs. These are two letters that come together to make a new sound, for example 'c' and 'h' make the sound 'ch' in 'chip'. By the end of Spring 2, we are aiming for your child to be able to read phase **3c** books, **fluently**.

## Handwriting & Letter Formation

Handwriting is very important for Reception children because they need to strengthen and build control of their fingers and hands.

In order to support this, we do 'Dough Disco' each day to strengthen our finger muscles!



Please encourage your child to hold their pencil correctly at home when practising their writing (Nip, flip and grip).

**Please practise this as often as possible.**

## PE

**P.E days are now Monday and Thursday!**

**Please make sure your child has their full (and labelled) P.E kit on their peg for the entire term.**



## Understanding the World

In D&T, we have started recycling and our challenge is to use our recycled materials to design and make more sea creatures to help our classroom look like we are living 'under the sea'.

In History, we will become pirates and make our own maps to find treasure. Oooooo arrrrrr!

In Geography, we will be learning all about the Great Barrier Reef and using our knowledge of recycling to help save it!

In Computing, we are going to learn how we can find more information about pirate ships- we're even going to make our own to play in.