Reinwood Infant & Nursery School

My work in school 2025-26

Dear Parents, our topic this half term is:

New beginnings & Fairy Tales

The areas that we will be covering are:

- Getting to know each other.
- Singing nursery rhymes and learning about words that rhyme.
- How to feel happy and safe at school.
- Reading traditional fairy stories and becoming familiar with them.
- Finding out about key characters in fairy stories.
- Art: Making models, e.g. castles, box modelling, play dough, exploring clay.
- Understanding the world: Exploring our school building & grounds, finding out who people in school are and what they do.
- Investigating changes: what happens when we put different things in water?

Here are some suggestions of how to explore this topic at home.

- Reading traditional stories and nursery rhymes together. Encourage your child to retell the stories in their own words. Can they talk about which is their favourite story and explain why they like it?
- Find some boxes to make a castle or home for a favourite character from a nursery rhyme or fairy story.
- Sing nursery rhymes with your child, the more the better! Nursery rhymes introduce lots of interesting vocabulary to children and help them to hear rhyming sounds.
- Help them recognise numbers in the environment. Can they see the number of your house or other houses on your street? Can they see bus numbers, registration plates, signs etc?
- Help your child learn the sounds and actions in the phonics folder. New sounds will be added each week. Can the children help you to learn the song for each letter? Can they think of any words starting with the letters?
- Help them to write their name using the correct letter formation. Encourage your child to hold their pencil with the 'tripod' grip: the thumb and first finger holding the pencil whilst it rests on the middle finger. The pencil should be gripped close to the top to help control whilst the shaft of the pencil rests on the hand between the base of the thumb and forefinger.
- Have a go at making a Gingerbread Man. We will be doing an investigation to find out what would happen to the Gingerbread man if he fell into the river. What does your child predict will happen?
- Talk about the idea of Harvest and growing food to eat. Where do our vegetables and fruits come from and how do they get to us? Do you or someone in your family have an allotment that you could visit?

Requests:

Please make sure that your child has their **book bag every** day so that their phonics file can be added to during the week.

We will be taking part in **PE every Tuesday and Wednesday**. Please send your child to school in a PE kit on those days. Tee shirt / fleece top / joggers / shorts / trainers

Please make sure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name!

Helping your child at home

Literacy:

Throughout this half term your child will participate in a literacy or phonics activity every day. These are some ideas of how you can help your child at home to reinforce what has been done at school.

- ✓ Encourage your child to read their reading book or share a book with you each evening and discuss the story with them. Remember to look inside the front and back cover of the book for excellent ideas on how to help your child.
- ✓ Please look at the reading record book, there may be some specific activities in here for you to try out. We would also strongly encourage you to write a comment in this book, as it will be a help to the class teacher to know how your child is doing at home.

Maths:

You can help your child to develop an understanding of maths in the environment by:

- ✓ Playing games with a dice and helping them to count on (e.g. snakes & ladders / Ludo)
- ✓ Recognising numbers on doors /signs etc
- ✓ Using language to compare size (big/small, tall/short etc)
- ✓ Helping them to recognise and write the number in the maths folder

	Maths focus	**Key Books and Topic Focus**	**Key sounds & words**
Week 2	Say and use number names in order in familiar contexts Recognising numbers	Nursery rhymes and action rhymes. Talking all about me. Learning routines.	Sound & Listening games **Mum Dad**
Week 3	Introducing and explaining numbers in different contexts. Can we recognise more and less Can we recognise groups of 3	Goldilocks and the 3 Bears A Chair for Baby Bear } How am I special? Exploring school, taking care of our environment, visit to the woods & pond area.	Introduce: s, a, t, p **Kipper Biff Chip**
Week 4	Match and sort sets of objects Use language such as 'more' or 'less' to compare groups and quantities	Gingerbread Man Runaway Chapatti What happens when a gingerbread man goes into water?	Introduce: i, n, m, d **Floppy**
Week 5	Recognising patterns in the environment and using objects to make patterns	Little Red Riding Hood What makes a good helper? How do we keep ourselves safe? Who are strangers?	Introduce: g, o, c, k **is it in at**
Week 6	Counting and exploring numbers. Exploring Numicon Shapes and patterns.	The Three Little Pigs Making a map	Introduce: ck, e, u, r **and**
Week 7	Measuring – Height Using words to compare height and length	Jack and the Beanstalk Planting a broad bean Sculpture – Making a castle and /or a giant's face from clay	Introduce: h, b, ss **to, the**
Week 8	Measuring – Weighing Using words to compare the weight of objects	Clay and boxes Other traditional tales. The Scarecrows Hat, Enormous Turnip Greedy Goat, Healthy food and celebrating harvest	Introduce: f, ff, l, ll **no, go, I**