

# What is happening in Reception?

## End of April 2025

### Literacy



We have been learning a new traditional story called 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We will be exploring the story, the characters and settings before creating a story map to help us retell it. We are also listening to 'Handa's Hen' by Eileen Browne. This is a story set in Kenya and tells of a young girl, who goes looking for her hen. She eventually finds her with ten chicks.

In phonics, we are now learning special friends. We will all be practising oral blending, reading green and red words, practising writing sounds and spelling words with the sounds we know well. We are all practising writing CVC or CCVC/ CVCC words, writing them in phrases with finger spaces. In handwriting, we are trying to write our letters at the correct relative size and learning to write capital letters. (NB — V = vowel and C = consonant)

### Maths



In Maths this week, the children will continue to explore the composition of numbers within 10, focusing on the 'special case' of when 2 equal parts combine to make a whole. The children will first use their skills of comparison and identify when 2 sets are equal or NOT equal. This week the children will continue to use their subitising skills, and begin to 'know' the whole when they see 2 parts the same size for larger numbers within 10, as well as begin to recall some doubles facts when an image or physical resource is not available to support them.

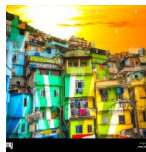


### Topic



We are starting our new topic - 'How is life in the UK the same and different to other places in the world?' We will start by going for a walk in our local environment to spot signs of Spring. We will be talking about what has changed since the Winter and draw some plants and animals that we see.

We will also be looking at images of Brazil and comparing it to the UK. Brazil is warm and wet and has the world's largest tropical rainforest. They grow things we can't in the UK because it is too cold here, like bananas and coffee. One of the world's longest rivers is also in Brazil and it is called The Amazon. There are many people who live in Brazil and some live in favelas. These can be colourful, just like some of the clothes they wear!



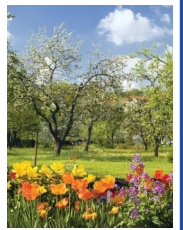
### Messages

We hope you all had a lovely Easter holiday and are looking forward to the Summer Term.

This time of year, the weather can be a little unpredictable so please ensure your child has suitable clothing for their outdoor learning. As the weather warms up, please ensure your child has a sun hat and long lasting sunscreen. A lightweight jacket, kept in their bag, is always a helpful thing to have.

Can we please ask everyone to check all the children's clothing is named - thank you! This time of year, most children take off their cardigans and sweatshirts. It becomes very difficult, when many of these are not named.

PE is on a Thursday so please could earrings be removed or taped up before school, if your child has pierced ears.



### How can you help at home?

Please continue to practise oral blending with your child daily. If they can blend 3 sounds then please extend them to 4 or 5 sounds to help them progress in their reading. The Fred game links and Oxford Owl activities will help with this. Please practise sounds daily and listen to your child read if they are bringing home words, sheets and/or books. Some children are now learning set 2 sounds and these can be trickier. Please continue to practise reading all the sounds they have learned.

Please share books and read to your child every night if you can. Try and develop a love of reading that will stay with them for the rest of their lives! The children should practise reading regularly Oxford Owl can help with this.

Ten Town will give your child access to all the stories and songs they know and a range of activities designed to develop their understanding of numbers.

You can also support your child's Maths learning by undertaking some of the suggested activities from the maths home learning.

**If you have any comments, concerns or questions, please come and speak to Mrs Kalampaliki, Mrs Griffin or Ms York. We hope you all have a lovely week!**