



# ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND

## (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

### Reception Newsletter 4

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you have had a lovely break and enjoyed spending time together.

This half term our topic is 'All Creatures Great and Small'. In Reception we will be exploring a range of animals, mainly British wildlife. We will use the text, 'Owl Babies' and 'Peter Rabbit' to investigate which animals may live in the woods. We will even have our very own campsite within our classroom! We will also be visited by Animal Story, who will bring an assortment of animals to show the children, similar to the animals we might find in the wild. This visit will cost £6 per child. Payments can now be made through Parent Mail. Thank you.

Key dates for Reception this half term are:

- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Book Week
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day – Children invited to dress up as their favourite book character
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Bedtime Stories 5.30pm-6.30pm
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Class visit to Gosforth Library in the afternoon (Parent Helpers needed please)
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Science Week
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Visit from Animal Story
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – 2.30pm – Mother's Day Service and Afternoon Tea
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Forest School – All children are to come into school wearing a long sleeved top and trousers please, as well as suitable footwear and a waterproof coat.

Books will continue to be changed on a Monday morning, when children will be given two or three books to read during the following week. We will occasionally keep book bags overnight if we have not had time to change books during the school day. It is important to re-read texts to develop their fluency and pace; these are skills which are hard to establish in a first read through, so we would ask that children read both books at least twice before the following Monday. Please make a short comment in your child's reading record **each time** you hear them read, which should be daily please. Children now have all the phase 2 and 3 sounds in their phonic packs. Please use these to practise recognising the sounds and building words with them. Please could you also ensure book bags are brought to school every day, checked for letters every night and old letters removed, thank you.

PE will usually be taught on a Wednesday. PE kits should be left in school (on cloakroom pegs) and should contain a pair of named trainers for outdoor PE lessons please. It would be very helpful if any child with long hair could have their hair tied up in a ponytail on this day too. Please do not send in trainers with laces unless children are able to tie them. Thank you.

This half term we will also start using the ICT Suite in school. This will allow the children the opportunity to develop their computing skills such as using a simple program, using a mouse and typing on a keyboard. We will now also be attending Worship each day with Year 1 to 4.

Children should also bring in a water bottle each Monday. Please remember this should be filled with water only. This will then be sent home each Friday to be washed, ready for the following week. A healthy snack is also provided each day for children in Reception.

To help support your child further at home, you could encourage your child to use both a knife and fork at mealtimes, explore the outdoors looking for different animals, practice using a mouse for a computer and use the phonic bags to develop your child's recognition of the sounds.

### **Reception Wish List**

Understandably, we use a great deal of malleable items and we would really appreciate it if you could send any of the following items into Reception at any time.

- Pasta
- Shaving foam
- Cream of tartar
- Flour
- Food colouring

Many Thanks in advance!

The classroom is a busy place – there's always jobs to do! If any parents feel they can donate any (regular) spare time, who would be interested in coming into school to help, please let me know!

If you have any questions, please do pop in to see me at the end of the school day, once all children have been dismissed or if you would prefer to contact me by email, my address is:  
[katie.wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:katie.wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

We look forward an exciting term in Reception!

Yours sincerely

Miss Wilkinson