



Reception Newsletter Spring 1



This half term, our topic is titled '*Our helpful heroes!*' Each week, learning will be based around a different group of people who help us in our everyday lives. We will share a range of books to help to support our understanding and build knowledge. We will incorporate the seven areas of learning through our topic and the environment will be set up to fully reflect the skills taught, through a range of creative activities, offering the children hands on experiences about the world around them. Please continue to support your child's reading skills by completing the daily phonics learning and reading to your child every day.

Literacy - [Parent Help Guide- Speaking to writing](#)

In our Literacy learning this half term we will be focus on our oracy, reading and writing skills.

As Readers we will understand that a sentence is a whole idea and will be using our phonological awareness to help us read simple sentences. We will build our fluency and comprehension skills by answering questions about the text.

As Writers we are focusing on segmenting to write and building up single cvc words to writing captions and short sentences. We will be looking at the non-fiction genre of writing instructions and create our own recipes. We will be applying our colourful semantics skills and will develop sentence writing linking nouns and verbs i.e. The dog is eating.

Maths Mastery

Maths Mastery is taught daily and children's skills are consolidated through a mix of adult led activities, challenges and continuous provision. To help support this at home we have created a [Parent Help Guide](#) with lots of ideas on activities and resources to use.

You can also watch the [Numberblocks!](#) We will focus on time and sequencing events in our daily lives as well as investigating shape by describing the properties of them and looking at the relationship between different shapes.

Launch & Finale

We always like to launch our topic with an inspiring event and celebrate our learning with a finale.

Launch- The Evil Pea will be causing havoc in our unit! Please look at the photos on our Year group Gallery to find out more!

Finale - In the last week of our topic we will celebrate our learning with a Super Hero Dress Up Day! We will be inviting the children to dress up as either - Super hero fictional characters or Real life Superheroes- more information will follow.

Phonics

We will start the term by revisiting the digraphs we already know to consolidate them before moving on, you can use your child's phonics books to help with this as they can look back at what they have already done. We will focus on applying our knowledge of the phonemes into our reading and writing and use the spelling codes in different activities.

Please also remember to practice key words with your child at home. Here is a link to some phonics games you can play on the computer too!
<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>



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Topic Information

Over the coming weeks we will be developing the following skills:

As Historians Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books that link to our topic.

As Geographers we will closely observe the world around us and document the changes we see through discussion and drawing. We will consider animals around the world and where they live.

As Scientists we will explore different types of materials and their properties. We will look at identifying and classifying different groups of animals and their offspring.

As Theologists we will explore different beliefs and the books that are special to them.

As Musicians we will be learning about our Musician of the Month and developing our musical and vocal skills in our weekly lesson.

As Artists we will plan for and develop our own ideas and model by creating sculptures of our own.


Donations

Are you able to donate any of the following?

- boxes of tissues
- greetings cards
- plastic bottle tops
- tissue paper
- yoghurt pots
- Pompoms
- Buttons
- egg boxes
- cereal boxes

Please ensure all items have been washed/are clean and are from nut free products, thank you!

Our [Amazon Wish List](#) has been updated for our Topic. Please click here to find out what new resources we would be very grateful to receive (Link to go in please).

Busy Things! 

As part of our weekly Carousel sessions, the children take part in a range of ICT activities which supports their knowledge and understanding of the world. We use Busy Things as a wonderful tool to help promote not only the children's ICT skills, but phonics and numeracy too. You can also access this at home using your child's LGFL email address and log-in details!

Home Learning Ideas

- Bake a celebration cake with an adult - what ingredients will you need? Can you write a list?
- Create a map or model of your local environment - what shops or places of interest are near your house?
- Practice your oracy skills by playing a game of '***I went to the shops and brought a...***' how many items can you remember?
- Can you create your own Wake Up Shake Up routine to 'Celebrate' by Kool and the Gang?

Please see our weekly Google Classroom updates for more ideas!

Outside Learning

Do you enjoy gardening or planting? Are you available to help us with the upkeep of our outside area? Are you a creative thinker and can upcycle materials with an outdoor purpose in mind? Can you donate seeds, plants or unwanted garden toys (in good condition)? Do you have any leftover materials such as logs, pallets, artificial grass from your own garden projects? We would love your support in enhancing the children's outdoor experiences! **Before you bring items to school, please either send a photo of your proposed donation to info@hillcross or speak directly to a member of the team so we can risk assess before accepting your kind offer.**