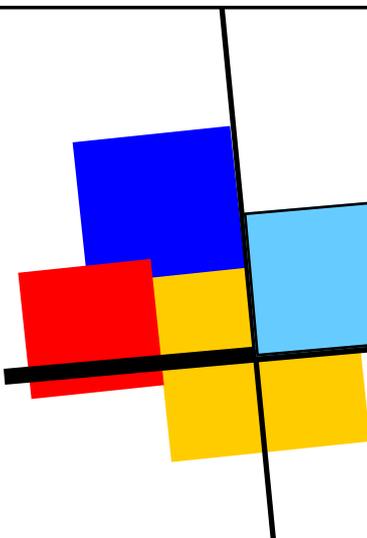


SPRING TERM 2016



The British Preparatory School

RECEPTION

As most of the children have been with us for a whole term now they are well settled into their routine. The important days and information to remember are:

Sunday - come dressed in PE kit with uniform in your child's bag to change into after PE. Please note that we encourage the children to independently dress as much as possible. The teacher is only there to help if really needed and you can help by doing the same at home whenever possible.

Tuesday - come dressed for dance in PE kit and bring uniform to change into afterwards.

Thursday - don't forget your library book!

Every day - A healthy snack is required. We do not object to a small treat after something healthy, such as a sandwich or cut up fruit and vegetables. In addition to the drink provided for snack, you are asked to send water bottles daily as the children take them to playtime. The bottles must be labelled to prevent confusion.

Clothing - Please label ALL of your child's clothes. Many of the children have the same size and so it is very difficult to track them down once they have gone missing if their name is not in the clothing.

In addition please check that the clothes they bring home are actually theirs and also ensure that you see any letters or notes that have been sent home from school.

Punctuality - We start teaching first thing in the morning and the children who are late miss out on important inputs. In order to be in class on time and to ensure they are gaining maximum benefit from school, you are advised that children should be in bed no later than 7.30pm.

Literacy

Last term we covered an extensive pre-reading programme. For those children who were ready, the initial reading books from the Oxford Reading Tree were introduced. For those who were not ready, they continued the pre-reading programme including working through small booklets to introduce the first words.

This term we shall reinforce the single letter sounds, encourage the children to sound out CVC words, eg b-a-t = bat and introduce the digraphs ch, sh, th and how to tackle the consonant blends, eg tr, fl, gr etc. Those who have embarked on the reading scheme will continue to work through the stages. The key words will be reinforced with flashcards which will be sent home. It will be very beneficial if you could go over these regularly. These words should mainly be treated as sight words and therefore the children shouldn't be encouraged to sound them out apart from maybe looking at the initial sound as a clue. For those children who have not yet brought a reading book home, please do not worry. Just as learning to walk or talk, children develop at different rates. Again, just as walking and talking, they eventually catch up, even if later starting than their peers. Their date of birth, their previous experience, family situation, and language status etc all can effect when they start to read. If at all concerned do call to see us.



**Acting out
Goldilocks and
the Three**



Handwriting

We have regular handwriting sessions. Last term we concentrated on the correct formation of the lower case letter and this term we shall reinforce these ensuring they are a uniform size and sit correctly on the lines. We shall also introduce the correct formation of the capital letters. The children will be encouraged to write simple sentences using a capital letter for the beginning, full stop at the end and finger spaces between the words, as well as doing simple comprehension questions related to their reading books.

Numeracy

Our puppets, Jumping Jack and Number Norman will continue to attend many of our numeracy sessions throughout the term. The children will help the puppets to continue to learn about counting to 20 along with ordering numbers. We will focus on 1 more than numbers to 20 and then begin to explore 1 less.





We shall reinforce the concepts of addition as combining two sets and subtraction by taking away from a set using apparatus.



There will also be further work done into counting in tens and two dimensional shapes.

Pirate Day



Last term pirate day was a fantastic day for the children and teachers too! The children all looked great in their outfits and fully enjoyed a day full of pirate activities, including a treasure hunt where they searched for some delicious chocolate coins.

The children had a parade where the other classes came out to see them in their pirate outfits and enjoyed watching them sing their pirate songs. The children loved the big pirate feast where they all sat together and ate as much as they could!



Topic

This term the topic will be 'Fairy Tales'. Each week we will explore one story, including its origins and meanings. We will discuss the characters we meet and even have a go at acting out the stories in class. The stories will feature in both our literacy and numeracy lessons in different ways, such as, size will be explored in relation to Goldilocks and the three bears and the leaves on Jack's beanstalk will be counted, added or subtracted.

Mrs Tierney & Mrs Kenna
Reception Teachers