

Welcome to Reception



Dear parents/carers

Welcome back to Reception! We hope you have had a fantastic Christmas holiday and are looking forward to getting stuck in with your learning!

This half-term, your topic is called **Superheroes**! We will be looking at all sorts of animals from all over the world as well as the ones in our back gardens.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat and we will be more than happy to speak to you. If you would prefer, an appointment can be made.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Holyoak (Class teacher)
And Miss Pickering (Teaching assistant)



Some Important Reminders...



Attendance and Punctuality. Please ensure that your child arrives on time for school. The doors open at 8:50am. Good **attendance and punctuality** is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target!

End of the Day. School finishes at 3.15pm. All children must be collected by an adult. It is important that you inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them. If you are late collecting your child (3:25pm) please go to the office.

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday, even if the weather appears warm and sunny. Please ensure your child comes to school with spare clothes in case of accidents or getting messy during play. Children should also bring in fresh water everyday in their water bottles.

Reading. Reception children will very soon be starting to have a reading session with an adult at least once a week. There will be other opportunities throughout the week for an adult to hear your child read - therefore we ask that children bring their book bags and reading books daily so that they are fully prepared. All children will receive a home-link book - the aim of these books is to maintain communication between home and school. We encourage parents to write a comment about how your child has read at home.

PE. This term, P.E. lessons will be on a Tuesday morning. Please ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit, including comfortable black plimsolls or trainers. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back. To see our full uniform policy please visit our school website—
www.grangetown.sunderland.sch.uk

School Website and Tapestry journals. We have lots of information on our school website. We have a Reception page where we will put on photos and updates. Please also remember to log in and check your child's Tapestry online learning journal as all observations and photos are posted on there. If you need support accessing the website or Tapestry, please see a member of staff.

This terms 'Learning Theme' (topic) is Superheroes! We will be focusing on two core stories, Supertato Veggies Assemble and The Little Red Hen. We will also have fun learning about Chinese new year and valentines day.

Literacy. We will have really enjoy lots of reading and writing opportunities through our new core stories. We will also be learning about jobs from real life superheroes and famous superheroes, to allow the children to role play and be creative in the areas. We will be creating story maps and ordering the stories, to help us remember them. We will continue with our Monster phonics lessons, learning new sounds everyday!

Maths. We will continue to use our Mastering Number scheme to help deepen our understanding of number. We will be ordering number and counting on. We will be able to start adding one number. We will also be looking at estimation and prediction of length, weight and capacity. We will also be looking at time and pattern.

Understanding the World. We will be looking at lots of different foundation subjects in Reception. We will be looking at some history books to introduce the concept of the past to the children. We will be looking at the world around us, seasons and weather in Geography and learning about different religions in RE.

Expressive Arts and Design. We will be using our Charanga scheme to teach music to the children. We will be listening to different music to discuss how it makes us feel and finding the beat. We will also be making lots of crafts this half term for Valentines day and Chinese New Year.

Physical Development (Inc. PE). We will be using an exciting new scheme called 'Real PE'. The scheme uses stories, songs and themes to make PE exciting and cross curricular. We will be introducing the first cog and linking it to our new topic. We will be working on our gross motor skills and throwing/catching a ball.

Communication and Language. We will be working on our communication skills through storytime and singing sessions to help the children learn our core books. We will also be practising hot-seating and helicopter stories to encourage the children to be confident and use language skills to be creative.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development. We will be following our Jigsaw scheme learning about our dreams and goals. We will discuss New Years Resolutions in class and thinking about our personal achievements so far. We will start to discuss working towards a goal through having a positive attitude. We will also support our friends to help them achieve their goals.

Ideas for activities to complete at home



- Make sure your child is as independent as possible - let them try and take their jumpers on and off etc.
- Help your child read their individual reading book each week: talk about the pictures, think about what might happen next.
- Read other texts at home with your child such as story books, magazines, labels on food packaging, signs in the environment.
- When going to the shops, let your child make a shopping list!
- When practising letter formations make it fun! Use sand, shaving foam, cream, flour etc to write in!
- Encourage children to read their name on sight. This will be useful for finding their pegs and trays.
- Maths should be learnt in a practical manner e.g. counting the stairs to bed and socks into the washing machine, recognising numbers on buses and doors and so on.
- Play games which allow your child to take turns such as snap or any board game.
- If you have an iPad, some fantastic apps which aid learning are; Comic life, twinkl phonics, beebot, sand write, magnetic letters.
- Finally, school can be tiring! Please ensure that your child gets enough sleep. Bedtime and morning routines are key to a productive and enjoyable day.

GPS on Social Media



We have 3 social media accounts that you can follow to keep up with what your child is doing. Our 3 accounts are:

Facebook: @grangetownprimary

Twitter: @Grangetown_PS

Instagram: grangetown_ps