

PE will be on a **Tuesday** and a **Wednesday** so please send them dressed in their PE kit on these days. Make sure everything is labelled so it can be returned to its owner please. This is particularly important for hoodies/jumpers/coats and water bottles.

Morning Routine

Please continue to remind your child when you bring them in to put their bookbag on their peg and their water bottle in the water bottle tray. They need to remember to order their dinner too. We are now in the full swing of reading books and we change phonics books (Little Wandle orange logo) on a Monday so please get your child to get their book out ready to give to a member of staff and their sharing book on a Friday. Thank you for your support in not bringing home toys to school; the children overall seem to be settled into Kestrels class now and we appreciate your support with this.

Book Bags and Reading

Reading records will have a list of the books the children will be reading this term and their e-collins log in is at the front. This is the website where these books will be assigned for them to read online. Remember Mon-Wed each week we will read with your child in school and they can read this book online at home. Their reading book will come home with them on a Wednesday and need to be returned on a Monday for them to get a new book.

Please continue to support us by listening to your child read at home. If your child reads at home, they receive a sticker on their new reading bookmark. Each 10 stickers earn them a prize. When it is full up, they receive a certificate in assembly. Please remember to write in their reading records; it is helpful for us to know how they're getting on at home with their reading.

Snacks/Drinks

The children are provided with one piece of fresh fruit to eat. Lots of children need more than this or they may not like what is on offer so if your child would prefer to eat their own fruit, or would like more to eat, then they may bring it and pop it in their tray each morning. Please can you provide a **named** water bottle and remember we are a **nut free** school. We also encourage healthy snacks to be eaten.

We want to make sure your children are happy and smiling so if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us at any time. We are around in the mornings at drop off or after school. Please also feel you can email us to ask anything (kestrels@thrupp.gloucs.sch.uk). However, if it is urgent ring or email admin as we will only read emails outside of the school day.

Thrupp Primary School



Information for Reception Parents Spring 2024

Kestrels

Miss Mills

Support Staff:

Mrs McCombie (Mon-Thurs)

Mrs Southgate (Weds-Fri and teaching Thursday afternoons)

Working 1:1:

Mrs Spring (Mon-Weds), Mrs Young (Thurs & Fri), Mrs Hepper & Mrs Abel

Dear parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Christmas and new year and you and your children are refreshed and ready for a new (much shorter) term!

Celebrations - Each day we will continue to have a star of the day, which will be someone who has impressed us the day before, and they will have special jobs for the day like taking the register and being at the front of the line. We also have our WOW vouchers, which we will share on a Friday if your child has done something at home/outside clubs, Please remember to fill these out when your child has done something to impress you.

Below is a summary of what the children will be learning this term. The main topic this term is 'Moon Zoom!'. We will be exploring the questions 'What do we know about space travel?' and 'Why are some places hot and other places cold?'.

The children will continue to be taught in single year groups in the mornings. They will be taught by Miss Mills and Mrs Southgate (Thursday afternoons).

Communication and Language - Each week we have a focus 'word of the week' and new vocabulary is regularly introduced during circle times, topic focus sessions and literacy. The children will be encouraged to use this new vocabulary throughout the day, speak during whole class circle times and ask questions to find out more.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - We continually support the children in continuous provision with their personal, social and emotional development when playing alongside them. Kestrels children are wonderful at using a sand timer to share and resolving conflicts with adult support. Our focus this term is about keeping ourselves and others safe. We will begin thinking about how to keep ourselves safe indoors and outdoors and listening to our feelings. We will then move onto how we look after others and our world.

Physical Development - We will be continuing to develop our ability to climb, balance and travel along the gymnastic equipment. The children will also begin to develop their ball skills when throwing and catching and learn the key principles of how to play games. We will have focus fine motor activities each week for the Reception children to develop their skills with an adult. Children will also develop their gross and fine motor skills in continuous provision.

Phonics - Wow! Your children have blown me away with all of the phase 2 phonics sounds they can now recognise and blend to read words. This term we will be moving onto phase 3 graphemes focussing on; ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, **oo**, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air and er. We will also learn how to read longer words with the sounds we know in.

Literacy - In English we will begin by looking at the book Aliens Love Underpants by Claire Freedman. We will be using our known phonics to help us sound out words and beginning to write simple phrases and sentences. We will finish the unit off by creating a wanted poster for an alien! In the second half of the term we will look at How to Catch a Star by Oliver Jeffers.

Mathematics - We have been looking at the composition of numbers to 5 the past two terms and the children are becoming increasingly confident at subitising numbers (knowing how many there are in a group without counting). We will be continuing to develop a deep understanding of numbers 1-10; exploring the structure of numbers, connecting quantities to numerals, forming numerals and ordering numbers. We will also be comparing length, height, capacity and mass.

Understanding the World - Our topic this term is 'Moon Zoom!' and we will be historians to start with; learning all about the moon landing. We will be exploring when it happened and learning about Neil Armstrong and Katherine Johnson. The second half of the term, we will be becoming geographers by describing the appropriate clothing to wear in different environments and looking at different weathers. We may not follow this strictly as learning will be adapted to fit the children's interests.

Our religious focus question this term is 'Who is Muslim and how do they live?'. We will be exploring some of the ways a Muslim may describe God and listening to some stories about the Prophet that guide their beliefs and actions.

Expressive Arts and Design - The children have access to creative materials in our classroom and can use these in their own learning time to create musical pieces, models and paintings. We will be developing our musical skills further by listening and responding to a different style of music each week, using instruments, singing nursery rhymes and action songs and sharing/performing these to each other. We will also be focusing on printing and painting when creating our own space images and next term we will be exploring using wheels and axels to make our own moon buggies!