

## Meet the Teacher Notes

### Our Team

#### **Fox Cubs**

Mrs Fuller- Class Teacher

Mrs Gould- Class TA



#### **Rabbits**

Mrs Burt- Class Teacher

Mrs Reeve- Class TA

Miss Daniels (Friday)



Mrs Chaplin and Miss Sampson-SEN TAs

### Information about Reception

#### **Reception Assessment Baseline (RBA)**

Children starting reception in 2023 will be participating in the reception baseline assessment (RBA) within the first 6 weeks of starting reception.

The purpose of the assessment is to provide the starting point for a new measure that will help parents understand how well schools support their pupils to progress between reception and year 6 / the end of key stage 2. A leaflet with more details will be posted onto Tapestry.

### How we use Tapestry

The government would like settings to reduce the amount of unneeded written recordings and assessment of children by staff. We will still be using Tapestry as our online Learning Journal to record our observations however we will be focusing on 'WOW' moments or moments that tell us something new about your child's learning and development. If you have experienced using Tapestry either at your child's previous setting or through a sibling you may notice you may receive fewer observations this is because we are focusing on developing more natural play, conversations and interactions with your child.

The children enjoy sharing their news and achievements with the class. If you would like to you can upload photos and videos e.g. a new skill (riding a bike), reading (particularly

when they begin to learn/identify sounds), celebrations, accomplishments e.g. swimming certificates, medals, dance competitions we love seeing what they get up to outside of school too!

We also ask that you check Tapestry regularly as we also use it as a form of communication particularly if we haven't been able to speak to you at the end of the school day. We may let you know if your child has not enjoyed their lunch choice for example.



### Phonics and Reading

We use Story Time Phonics to develop reading skills and phonic knowledge using story books to contextualise the sounds (phonemes). In Reception we begin with Phase 1 which helps develop children's speaking and listening skills, the Phonics Fairy then 'delivers' phonemes we learn Phase 2 (orange sounds) and Phase 3 (pink sounds). Each phoneme is introduced with a book and a 'caption action' as well as a 'sparkle mark' to teach the correct letter formation. The Tricky Troll also delivers 'tricky words' these are words that cannot be sounded out easily using our phonics knowledge.



Each week your child will be sent home the phonemes learnt during the week in their '**Phonics Folder**'. We would ask you to practise these with your child and there will be some guidance on games/activities you could do to help consolidate the phonemes. We will upload videos of the children vocalising the phonemes on Tapestry so you know how each one is pronounced. Please return the Phonics folder each Friday so we can add the new phonemes.



For this first half term we will send home wordless reading books. These are an important way to develop first literacy skills including, listening, vocabulary and comprehension skills. Once we start to learn individual phonemes and have learnt enough to 'blend' into 3 letter words your child will bring home a 'Phase 2 first words' book. They will then work through 'Phase 2 sentences,' 'Phase 3 beginning,' 'Phase 3 Plus' and 'Phase 4'. We **can not** go any higher than this in Reception as Phase 5 is not taught until Year 1. The idea is that all children are able to read at a level they are comfortable with in order to find reading a pleasurable experience.



### Reading at Home

This year we are trialing an online reading log rather than a paper copy. If you haven't done so already you will soon receive an email with a link to **Learning with Parents**. Clicking on this link will take you straight through to your child's reading log without the need for passwords etc. Each week they will send you a reminder email/text about the weekly target and you can upload a comment, a photo or an audio clip of your child reading.

For the first part of this year in particular it will be you or another adult reading to your child. This early reading/sharing books is just as important as your child will pick up all those important skills ie holding a book correctly, turning the pages, reading the print from left to right as well as talking about the characters and developing their use of vocabulary. When recording a comment in their reading log say whether your child enjoyed the book. What was it they did/didn't like? Who was their favourite character? How did the story make them feel? Did they learn any new words? etc As the year progresses your child may join in with book sharing and may point out certain words they recognise in texts as you read and eventually they will begin to read the Phonic Phase books that we send home with them themselves. Please do not wait until they receive these books before you start logging their experiences, leave comments about their school library books or books you have chosen from local libraries or at home. Reading is **NOT** just Phonic Phased books.



### Maths

We use White Rose Maths to teach number skills, shape, space and measure and spatial thinking.

Strong number sense helps build a foundation for mathematical understanding. Focusing on number sense in the early years helps build the foundation necessary to compute and solve more complex problems in KS1 and KS2 and beyond! Building a love for math in your children begins with building an understanding of numbers.

**White Rose 1 minute Maths app.** The 1-minute maths app helps children build greater number confidence and fluency. It's all about targeted practice in engaging, one-minute chunks!



## Topics

We cover different topics throughout the year. Our topic in the first half term is 'Who am I and Who Will I Be?'

We also have five themes that repeatedly recur throughout the year

- The Changing Year - Observing seasonal changes
- Colours Around Us - Experimenting with and learning about colour
- All About Me --- Learning about ourselves and how to express our interests
- The Natural World - Develop a love of nature and learn about the natural environment
- Let's Celebrate! - We celebrate many different religious festivals and cultural events throughout the year.

Topic webs will be posted on Tapestry and on the school website each half term.

## Home Learning in Reception

- Read at least 5 times a week and record any reading on Learning with Parents. Reading books are available each morning and the children can change these as and when they need to.
- With adult support practice correct letter formation in their Phonics Folder using a pencil.
- Once we have taught all phonemes for Reception (by the Summer Term) we may introduce other forms of Home Learning Tasks in preparation for Year 1 eg maths tasks, topic activities etc.
- Each half term we will be working on a set of **KIRFs** in Maths. These are '**Key Instant Recall Facts.**' We will post these on Tapestry for you to work on at home too and any evidence can be uploaded by you onto Tapestry for us to see.

## Things to Remember

- Send bookbags into school **everyday**.
- Label all uniform- particularly jumpers and cardigans.
- They also need a named pair of wellies that can be kept in school.
- Ensure we are aware of hometime changes/arrangements (either messaging through Tapestry or speaking to a member of the office staff).
- Please let us know asap if permanent arrangements are made with childminders, grandparents, friends etc.
- Bring a named water bottle to school every day.
- We visit the school library every **Friday**. Please send the previous weeks books in on a **Thursday** so they can be changed in our Library session.
- Fit Friday: Please remove all jewellery including stud earrings and tie hair back if it is longer than shoulder length.
- School Facebook page - South Wootton Infant School

