



Curriculum Newsletter

Bramham Shadwell Federation
Class R November - December 2018



All our learning in class this half term will be focused around the theme:
Keeping Safe

Communication, Language and Literacy

Mark making:

- All children will be learning Phase 2 and 3 sounds and will begin to practise writing letters and simple words. They will practise this in the areas of provision and during fun focused activities.
- All children will continue to participate in handwriting sessions with a focus on **accurate letter formation**. This may be in shaving foam, sand, paint or handwriting books.

Literacy:

- This half term the focus will be on 'Stars', using the Christmas play 'Shine, Star, Shine' as a focus text. The children will be retelling the story through role-play, song and dance. There will be lots of opportunity for the class to discuss the setting, characters, problem and the resolution.
- The focus will then move on to 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. The children will also receive letters from the Christmas Elf and have the opportunity to reply to them by using their phonic knowledge. They will also be writing Christmas lists, cards and letters to Santa.

As always we will follow children's interests, so keep an eye on the class website for any new topics we may launch!

Mathematical Development

Number Focus:

- This term the children's understanding of numbers and counting will continue to be developed through specifically focussing on one number at a time. This term the numbers 3,4 and 5 will be explored.
- The focus will be on patterns within the numbers using a range of resources as it is proven that an understanding of pattern is key for children's mathematical development.
- Children will practise counting irregular groups of objects and recognising numbers to 5.
- Children will explore how to solve mathematical problems involving more and less, as well as calculating which two numbers make a given total using objects/ numicon plates.
- Doubling, halving and sharing will also be touched upon.
- Shape will be taught alongside number. The children will be encouraged to describe and name 2D and 3D shapes in everyday objects. For example, a rectangle has two long sides and two short sides: 2 and 2 makes 4. What happens if you cut a square in half? How many sides do two squares have? How could you find out?

How can I help / information for helping

Practice writing letters using the correct starting point and formation.
Ask your child to write all the sounds they can hear in a word. Can they hear the initial sound?
Discuss vocabulary with your child when reading stories at night time.

Practice accurate letter formation

If your child is writing at home, please encourage them to start their letters in the correct place.

How can I help / information for Helping

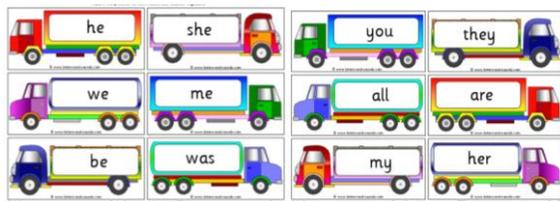
Spot numbers and shapes with your child in the local environment

Phonics

Focus is: This term the children will consolidate their knowledge of Phase 2 sounds. They will continue to blend and segment simple VC (it, on) and CVC (cat, dog) words when reading and writing words. The children will begin to learn the phase 3 sounds below.



Tricky words: These are Class R's new tricky words.



Children will learn to spell these tricky words.



How can I help / information for Helping

- Identify new phase 3 sounds when out and about.
- Sing the Jolly Phonics songs and practise the actions at home
- Practice recognition of the new tricky words.
- Practice writing the first 6 tricky words.
- Keep working on blending and segmenting simple words at home e.g. c-a-t...cat.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Focus is:

- There will be a continued focus on settling the children into Class R.
- The aim is for children to be confident in their relationships with others in school, develop self-help skills and be confident to try new activities.
- Children will have circle time in their key worker groups each week. They will develop speaking and listening through a variety of games.
- There will be a focus with the children on staying safe through our topic on 'Keeping safe'.
- The children will think about being safe on the darker nights as well as being safe on Bonfire night.

**BE BRIGHT
BE SEEN**



How can I help / information for Helping

If you have any concerns about your child, please let us know.

Physical Development

Focus is:

- Gymnastics

Skills / knowledge to be developed:

- The children will be creating shapes using their bodies.
- They will be moving safely on and around apparatus.
- The children will learn to perform the tuck, straddle and pike positions on apparatus or mats.

Exciting **fine motor** activities will be provided within the classroom for the children to access. These will help the children improve their pencil control.

PE will be on a **Wednesday** this half term.

How can I help / information for Helping

Please ensure that your child has their **named indoor PE kit including pumps** with them every day which can be taken home on a Friday to wash if necessary, as additional lessons may take place on alternative days.

Please continue to encourage your child to get dressed by themselves each morning, as this will help support them to get changed for P.E.

Expressive Arts and Design	Understanding the World
<p>Focus is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The children will participate in a singing lesson with Mrs Crowley on a Thursday. These lessons will be linked to the Christmas theme. The children will learn and rehearse songs for the Christmas play 'Shine, Star, Shine'. The children will perform the Christmas play for the whole school then parents. Using a range of media, children will create pictures and models linked to Remembrance Day, Diwali and Christmas. 	<p>Focus is: Light and dark, Festivals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main focus will be on light and dark linking to the 'Keeping safe' topic. Initially Class R will look at Bonfire night and learn a safety song. The children will explore shadows and will talk about how shadows are made. Children will then explore nocturnal animals and begin to think about animals that hibernate. Different festivals will be looked at such as Diwali, Hanukah and Christmas and how people celebrate these festivals.
<p>How can I help / information for Helping Please bring in small boxes, lids and containers for the children to use in our workshop area.</p>	<p>How can I help / information for Helping Talk to your children about staying safe especially in the dark.</p>

Homework	Any Other Information / Dates for the Diary
<p>Reading Books are sent home on a Tuesday and Friday night. Please make sure your child's book is in school every day and that you fill out the Monkey Reading Record book each time you hear your child read.</p> <p>Homework Homework will be linked to phonics and Maths. Please return back to school by Wednesday.</p> <p>Please encourage your children to discuss their homework at home in order that they develop the skills of explanation and reasoning.</p>	<div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p>Wednesday 12th December – 2.00pm Christmas Production</p> <p>Thursday 13th December- 9.30am Christmas Production</p> <p>Friday 14th December- Christmas Jumper Day</p> <p>Tuesday 18th December – 2.00pm Carol Concert for parents of children in Classes 2, 4 and 6.</p> <p>Wednesday 19th December – 9.15am Carol Concert for parents of children in classes R, 1, 3 and 5.</p> <p>Wednesday 19th December – 1.00pm Christmas party</p> <p>Friday 21st December- Last day of school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Reception the children spend a lot of time outside, therefore, please ensure your child has a coat in school. Please ensure that your child has a <u>named</u> water bottle in school every day. <p>  We encourage you to follow our school Twitter account @BramhamShadwell. We regularly post updates and photographs of what your children are learning in class alongside other important school information, reminders and updates. </p>

Thank you for all your support this week. We hope you and your child have had a positive and happy first week at school. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment at the office to arrange a meeting after school.

Miss Simpson and Miss Jennings