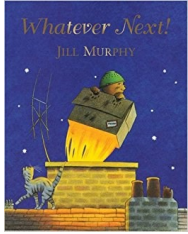


Reception News

Spring 1, January 2025

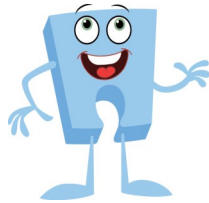
SPACE



Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed the break. We are very excited about our new focus story, 'Whatever Next!' and all of the learning opportunities that it creates. There are some lovely versions to watch and read online, or you might already own the book at home. We will be learning the story and then coming up with our own unique version!

PSED

Jigsaw is part of our PSED curriculum. This half-term, the theme is *Dreams and Goals*. We will try some tricky challenges. We will think about things we want to do and set goals. We will learn what it means to *persevere*, and that's it's okay not to be able to do something straight away. We will think about how we can encourage each other.



TOPIC

In our UW learning we will be focusing on space. We will find out about the moon with Baby Bear and then we will find out about planets in our solar system. We will use green screen technology to visit the moon. We will meet some aliens and help Q-Pootle-5 return home. We will also learn about Lunar New Year and host a Chinese Restaurant for our Nursery friends.



In our RE learning, we will focus on New Year celebrations, including the recent New Year, Lunar New Year and Nowruz.

LITERACY

In Phonics, some children will be continuing to learn the Set 1 sounds and others will be learning special friends (two or more letters that make one sound). Your child may come home with a 'Ditty' reading sheet to practise at home. We are focusing on 'Fred Talking' to hear sounds in words.

We will listen to and learn some space poems, learn lots of new space vocabulary and even write to some aliens!

MATHS

In maths, we will revise our learning of the numbers to five, and move on to six, seven and eight. We will continue to explore time, height and length; we will also explore mass and capacity. We will continue to practise subitising small amounts and look for patterns in numbers.



KEY QUESTIONS

- What is it like on the moon?
- How do you get to space?
- What is a planet?
- What are the planets like?
- Do you need special clothes in space?



What can you do to support your child's learning at home?

- Have family time and talk about your experiences. Children learn so much through talk and it helps them to make sense of their experiences.
- Enjoy story books together. Read regularly to your child and talk about what happened in the story. These are vital pre-reading experiences.
- Once your child does start to bring home books they can read themselves, make sure they read them regularly at home.
- Use the QR codes to watch phonics videos and log on to the Numbots app for maths games.
- Spot numbers and letters in the environment and point them out. Notice the numerals that make your house number, the number on the bus, look for letters from their name in the road name signs etc
- Count things, such as: counting the stairs on the way to up bed, counting out the cups onto the table etc.
- Climb, run, jump and balance at the park and in other fun ways. This will strengthen core body muscles.
- Play with playdough, use water to paint the fence or wall, use a spray bottle to squirt water on plants. Activities like this strengthen hand wrist muscles ready for mark-making.

Which staff are in Reception?

- **Mrs Norris, Reception (Bees) class teacher**
- **Mrs Watson, Reception support staff**
- Mrs Sharratt, PPA cover on a Thursday afternoon
- Mrs Dale, support staff
- Ms Archer, support staff



REMINDERS

PE will be on Tuesdays.

Please remember to send your child to school in their PE kit, including suitable footwear such as trainers in case we are outside.

(Plain T-shirt, plain joggers and school cardigan/jumper).

Reading

Please continue to share stories together at home as this is so important and helps children develop pre-reading skills and a love of books. Please bring bookbags to school every day.

Other key information and key dates for your diary:

- Stay and Read - every Friday morning you are invited to stay and share a book with your child until 9:00am.
- **Wednesday 15th January** - Star-Gazing: come back to school for a star-gazing treat! 5:30-6:30pm
- **Parents evening 4th/5th February**
- **7th February:** NSPPC Number Day
7th February: NSPPC Number Day
- **Week beginning 10th February** - we will be using face paint as part of our learning about Holi.
- **10th February:** Online Safety week

Contacting the Reception team

We are at the classroom door at drop off and pick up times and are always happy to say hello or have a quick chat.

Call the office to pass on a message or ask for a call back. 0115 9152953

Email: reception@dovecote.nottingham.sch.uk

