



St Mary's Primary School Writhlington

Welcome back to Spring Term 2 –

PE Kits required on...
Fridays

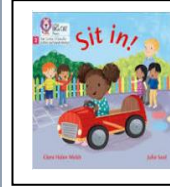
Topic

The topic for Spring Term 2 is **Space**. The children seem very excited to learn about all things galactic, including learning about rockets, planets, aliens and our very own British astronaut, Tim Peake. We will also be making our very own 'Outer Space' themed Role Play Area.

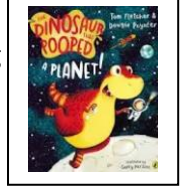


Reading

Please read with your child as often as you can. Please keep reading the weekly Reading Practice (Little Wandle) book with your child. We will not be writing the title of your child's 'Reading for Pleasure' book in the Reading Record- to free up more precious learning time-please could you write the title in the record when you receive the new book every Wednesday.



Please keep on learning our tricky words too!



Phonics

This term we will be continuing on our Phonics learning journey, with our daily Phonics sessions, plus our three Reading Practice Sessions. Your child might also be involved in our Phonics 'keep up' groups, to ensure they are supported with their early blending of the sounds they have learnt. **How you can help?** 'Sounding out' words e.g. ch-o-p and then blending those sounds quickly to read 'chop' is such an important skill but needs lots of practice! We are currently revising Phase 3 sounds, paying particular attention to those the children are not yet secure with.

A full list of the sounds that we will be revising this term and videos on how to correctly say those sounds can be found here:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

It's well worth a look, perhaps alongside your child!

Literacy

As part of our topic we will be sharing the story 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. The children will create their own story maps and story books. Other space-themed books will include: 'Here come the Aliens' and the fabulous- 'Look Up!' The children will be encouraged to create their own alien language, recording it on the iPad and writing it in speech bubbles for an alien they will be creating with paints (if you hear the phrase 'oompah, oompah, stick it up your jumpa' – you'll know what this is!). Little Oaks will also learn about space themed non-fiction texts and lots of related vocabulary.

We will be continuing to work hard to ensure we are forming letters correctly in writing.

The children have all learnt the 'Formation Phrases' to help them to correctly write all the letters we have learnt, for example...



Formation phrase

Under the snake's chin, slide down and round its tail.

How can you help? Keep on practising writing any sounds that you notice that your child needs support with, saying, and encouraging them to say, the Formation Phrase as they write. We have attached the list of letters and the Formation Phrases for you to use with your child. Use their green homework book to write in-do send them in for us to look at!

Mathematics

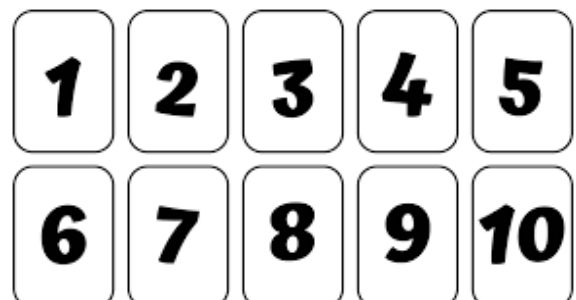
The KIRF for this term (Key Instant Recall Fact) is to be able to count in steps of 10. We will practice at least once daily, and we kindly request that you practice at home to reinforce learning – thank you!

We are learning all about combining two groups (addition) to find a total. Already the pupils have impressed us with their understanding!

We are continuing our work within the topics 'Growing 6, 7, 8' and 'Building 9 and 10'. We are investigating and comparing height and length, practicing days of the week (we do this every day during register too!), and Little Oaks are beginning to learn about measuring time.

Children develop a deeper understanding of numbers to 10, and we will be learning more about shape and patterns as we lead up to the Easter break!

Don't forget, we work individually with your child 1:1 each week on their Maths targets (learning steps) and it really supports learning when these are practiced at home too!



Specific Areas of Learning

We have a very busy term and a lot to squeeze in before we start thinking about Easter celebrations! In the first week back, we 'launched' our space topic by blasting off into space and became astronauts for the afternoon, and we tried real space food – we were very excited about this!

In our music sessions this term, we are appraising a range of music under the topic 'Our World' (very fitting for our space topic!).

We will be introducing glockenspiels this term – look out for a performance on Tapestry at the end of this term!

Children in Little Oaks usually have an outdoor learning session each week on Tuesday afternoons. Please ensure your child's wellies are in school.

We are very lucky this term, that we will be walking over to Writhlington School for our Gymnastics PE lessons. These are provided by very knowledgeable PE coaches. We will be using the main gym for these sessions. The children will use both small and large apparatus, during these sessions. It is a great opportunity for the children to work together and by themselves on developing their physical skills and stamina.

In R.E. our topic this term is Easter and we will be talking about the traditions that surround the celebrations and where they come from.

In Jigsaw, our Personal, Social and Emotional Development learning will have the theme of 'Healthy Me'

Dates to Remember

World Book Day-
7th March

Parents evenings-

Tuesday 19th Wednesday 20th March

Easter Café and Cake Sale-

27th March 2.30 School Hall

End of Term 4-

Thursday 28th March at 2.30

Busy Bee Jobs...



...are being introduced this term! These are engaging, fun and playful activities that help your child to practise and consolidate new skills they have acquired. The idea is that these tasks are completed independently. We plan them each week after we have reviewed your child's interests in class, and any learning needs we have identified, which will help your child to achieve the Early Learning Goal (ELG) at the end of the Reception year. If your child tells you we have turned them into bees, you'll know what they mean!



Please remember...

- Water only in bottles please (no squash or flavoured water please!).
- No toys/teddies should be brought into class from home (unless they are invited for a picnic of course!) – It causes upset when they get misplaced or when children 'swap' them with friends!

Remember, if you have any questions about your child's time in Little Oaks please feel welcome to email us or message us on Class Dojo.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Little Oaks Team