

RECEPTION



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Coming up next week...20/01/2025

Field Fridays: we have noticed that some children have outgrown their wellies. Please can you check in with your child as to whether their wellies still fit. If unsure, your child is free to bring them home over the weekend to check.

Snacks: One piece of fruit is provided daily for each child to eat at the snack table. There is no need to be providing fruit. Please chat to your class teacher if you have any concerns. Thank you.

Learning in school:

Theme for the Term: Dangerous Dinosaurs!

We are going back in time to widen our knowledge about dinosaurs. We will be looking at the similarities and differences between the dinosaurs, their size and features. We will also be learning facts using non-fiction books and learning how to look after dinosaurs.

Theme for the Week:

This week we will be looking at the book *The Dinosaur Department Store*, which is a wonderful story about shopping for a dinosaur. The children have each made a dinosaur junk model and they will be writing a sentence using an adjective about their dinosaur, inspired by the book *That's Not My Dinosaur*. We will also be thinking about sequencing events from a familiar story.

Phonics:

This week we will be recapping the digraphs and trigraphs we have learned previously and learning the new digraphs **ur**, **ow** and **oi** and the trigraph **ear**. Our tricky words will be: **my**, **by** and **all**.

Maths:

This week, we will be exploring mass and capacity. The children will be investigating whether objects are light or heavy and how they can make a scale balance. They will also be practising measuring liquids to required amounts.

Additional notes and reminders

Homework

Sound sheets will still be given out each week.

Maths homework can be found in the blue homework folders in your child's bookbag. Please pick a game to play and write notes on how your child is getting on. The aim of the homework is to help the children learn to subitise (recognise without counting) dotted amounts and to begin to learn some simple addition facts off by heart. If you do not have a dice at home then please email your class teacher and they will print off a paper dice for you to have for home.

Homework folders will be collected in the same day that sound folders are collected in.

PSHE

During the week commencing 20th January, we will be covering our Relationship and Sex Education aspect of the PSHE subject. We will be introducing the correct anatomical names for male and female genitalia. The following terms will be taught to the children through the means of a very child friendly, age-appropriate lesson about finding out whether a new baby in the family is a boy or a girl. We will be using anatomically correct dolls again which will be dressed identically, and we will discuss how parents know whether their new baby is a boy or a girl.

The following terms will be taught to Nursery and Reception children:

Female external genitalia -

Vulva - the area between a girl's legs at the front.

Bottom- rear bottom which has two cheeks that are soft so we can sit comfortably.

Male external genitalia -

Penis - the spongy tissue that dangles between a boy's legs.

Testicles - two little balls in a squashy bag behind the penis.

Bottom- rear bottom which has two cheeks that are soft so we can sit comfortably.

This forms The Mead Infant and Nursery School's part of the Sex Education element of RSE. Parents do have a statutory right to withdraw their child from this element but we would strongly suggest that you allow your child to access this learning, as a matter of safeguarding for your own child.

If you do decide to withdraw your child from this lesson, then it is important, however, that you discuss these terms with your child at home. The children will, undoubtedly, use this language, both at home with you, and at school, and it is often best taught in the proper context than being overheard in the playground.

If you have any questions, please see your child's class teacher.

Any requests for withdrawal from this lesson MUST be put in writing to the headteacher.

Class email addresses:

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Please note that as the week progresses it is sometimes necessary to change what is planned to meet the learning needs of the children and therefore changes to the above may occur.