# Reception Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2 2026/27



Our topic this half term is Space.

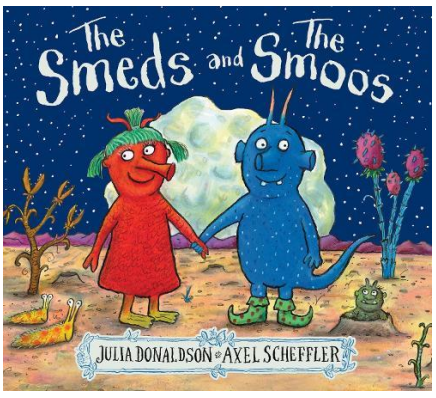
We will look at the solar system and talk about what we see and might find in space. We will be looking at different planets and discussing the differences between our 'day sky' and our 'night sky'.

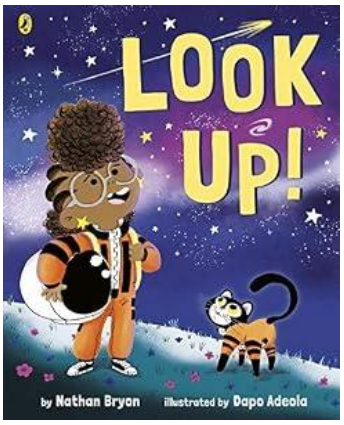
It would be great if you could start asking your child questions about space and the planets and see how their knowledge grows throughout the term!

At the end of this term Reception will be performing a Winter show! This will be on Wednesday 16th December at 9:10am. All families and carers are welcome!

| Key Words | Recommended additional reading you may choose to share at home/in the library: |
|---|---|
| *past, now,* season, weather, autumn, winter, planet, stars, moon, Earth, solar system, planet names, universe, breathing, air, temperature, survive, healthy, land, globe, long long ago, then | - Mae Among the Stars - Roda Ahmed<br>- We Are All Astronauts - Kate Pankhurst<br>- Milo and the Brave Star - Rebecca Pinnock<br>- Astro-Girl - Ken Wilson-Max<br>- Interstellar Cinderella - Deborah Underwood<br>- A Little Blue Dot - Maren Hasenjager<br>- You Choose in Space- Pippa Goodhart<br>- Life on Mars - John Agee |

Literacy - Our core books this term are 'The Smeds and the Smoos' and 'Look Up'. Two fantastic books which feature space. We will use these to spark excitement and passion for the children's early writing!




Writing - We have noticed that a lot of children have been practising their letter formation and name writing at home. Please can you continue this as your child will need to be able to form all their letters correctly and write their name independently by the end of Reception.

**Phonics** -In Phonics this half term we will be moving onto the next set of sounds and tricky words:
f/ff l/ll j v w x y z/zz qu ss sh ch th ng ai
Tricky words - go of as has my you all her

**Reading** - Reading bags (the ziplock wallets that were sent home), your child's current reading book, and their reading diary, should all be brought into school every day. Please ensure your child is reading their phonics book daily and you are recording this in their diaries.

You no longer need to record your 'shared reading' library book in the reading record. We only need to keep a track of how many days your child has read their phonics books but please continue to read the shared books to build a love of reading. We will change these if sent in on a Friday.

On Thursday 26th November, we will be having a Reception Reading Celebration. This will be an opportunity to see the different ways we teach reading for comprehension in school! Further information to follow.

We are introducing a recommended-by-the-children reading list, where children will have the chance to bring in a book that they have enjoyed at home to share during end-of-day story time with the class. These will then be displayed in the classroom window for other children and parents to see. Please speak to Ruby if you would like to send in a book.

**Maths** - This half-term in maths we will be exploring the composition of numbers up to 5. We will explore finding different representations of 1,2,3,4,5 and children will be encouraged to use counting principles such as touching an object as they count to support one-to-one correspondence. The children will be given practical opportunities to explore a range of ways to partition a whole number into two parts and to find different ways, for example, 4 can be composed of 2 and 2 or 3 and 1.
We will also be looking at 3D shapes such as spheres, cylinders, cubes and cuboids. The children will be finding and naming these shapes using the language like 'curved surface' and 'flat face.'

Here are some ideas to support your child at home:

- Sing songs and say rhymes with numbers up to 5. E.g. 5 currant buns, 12345 once I caught a fish alive, 5 little ducks.
- Explore composition by making numbers 1 - 5 with two different natural materials (feathers, stones, sticks etc).
- Look for 3D shapes in the environment.



In your reading diary is a log in to Numbots, which has early maths and number games you may choose to use for your child if they are having time with a device at home.

https://numbots.com/

Physical Development -To support the children with the gross and fine motor skills. Can you try squeezing your hands, rotating shoulders, rolling your wrists, pinching your index fingers and thumbs, knocking your knuckles and massaging your fingers. Find more examples here.

## PE Reminder



Children will not be required to change for PE until after the Christmas holidays. Please ensure that your child is therefore fully able to dress and undress themselves for PE without the aid of an adult.

Other information - As the weather is becoming colder and wetter, please provide your child with a waterproof jacket with their name in it. Your child may need hat, gloves and scarf with their names clearly written on the label.

## Being Creative

The children love to make models out of recyclable materials. It's a great opportunity for them to be creative and use their imagination. Please can you collect and bring in any recyclable materials for our junk modelling area. E.g. boxes, yoghurt pots, bottles, bottle tops, cardboard tubes, egg boxes etc... Please can you ensure that these are clean before sending them in with your child.



## Requests

We are always looking for resources in Reception, from junk modelling to real world play and clothing changes for accidents! If you have any of the below at home we would be very grateful!

- Plastic bags
- Spare pants/knickers (any size from 3-6)
- Old objects - such as a typewriter, tape player/tapes, old telephone, brick mobiles
- Pipes straight and bendy
- Cable reels, crates and bread crates,
- Old pots, pans, containers, utensils

# Important Dates

26.11.26 - **Reception Reading Celebration** - comprehension (further information to follow)

09.12.26 - Christmas lunch for children in school

16.12.26 - Early Years Christmas Show

17.12.26 - Class parties

18.12.26 - Last day of term - **2pm finish**

Thank you for your continued support.
Reception Team!