

Reception Newsletter

We hope you had a lovely summer and are now ready to start the new school year. We are looking forward to a busy and fun-filled year. This half term our first topic will be 'Do you want to be friends?' which is all about making new friends and looking at our own friendships as well as thinking about ourselves, our homes and our families. We will then start our topic 'Why do Zebras have stripes?' where we will look at a range of favourite stories, exploring wild animals, settings and repetition.

Here is a little bit about some of the things we will be covering in the different areas of learning:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

This half term will be helping to ensure your child gets familiar with the routines in Reception and settling in well to the school term. We will be helping your child to form new friendships and become independent learners, being able to play co-operatively with others, sharing and taking turns well. We will be encouraging your child to talk about their family, their feelings and about people who help them.



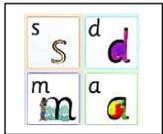
Physical Development

Your child will be participating in P.E. lessons. They will be expected to have a full P.E. kit in school for these lessons and will need to be able to get themselves changed, so please practise at home with your child to put their uniform on themselves would be helpful. The children will be exploring different ways of moving in their P.E. lessons and will be learning to successfully negotiate spaces. As well as developing gross motor skills the children will be developing their fine motor skills. They will do this by practising letter formation and holding a pencil correctly, threading objects and making models and manipulating play-dough. The children will take part in Funky Fingers to help them develop control with their fine and gross motor skills. Alongside this, the children will be looking at the importance of keeping healthy and recognising the effect that exercise has on their body.

Communication and Language



This half term your child will take part in lots of speaking and listening games and activities. We will also be encouraging your child to talk about what they have done over the weekend, their family, their favourite toys etc. Your child will also listen to lots of stories and start to talk about the characters, the setting and the sequence of stories.



Literacy

This half term your child will start phonics lessons, using the scheme Read, Write, Inc. This is where they will learn the sounds letters make. The children will then learn to sound out and blend words together and they will begin to learn to read simple words. Your child will then start to bring home key words for them to learn to read as well as reading books (this will be towards the end of the half term). We ask that you support your child to read and learn the new letter sounds and words each week. As well as learning the sounds letters make your child will learn letter formation and begin to use this knowledge and their sound knowledge in their writing. The children will be encouraged to mark make in a range of situations and say what they have written and drawn when asked.

Mathematics

Your child will learn how to count to 20 and back and recognise, write and order these numbers. They will also learn to say what one more and one less than a number is. The children will count objects accurately. As well as number work your child will name 2D and 3D shapes and begin to talk about the shapes properties. They will use shapes to make pictures, patterns and models. The children will also be encouraged talk about their birthdays and look at months of the year and days of the week.

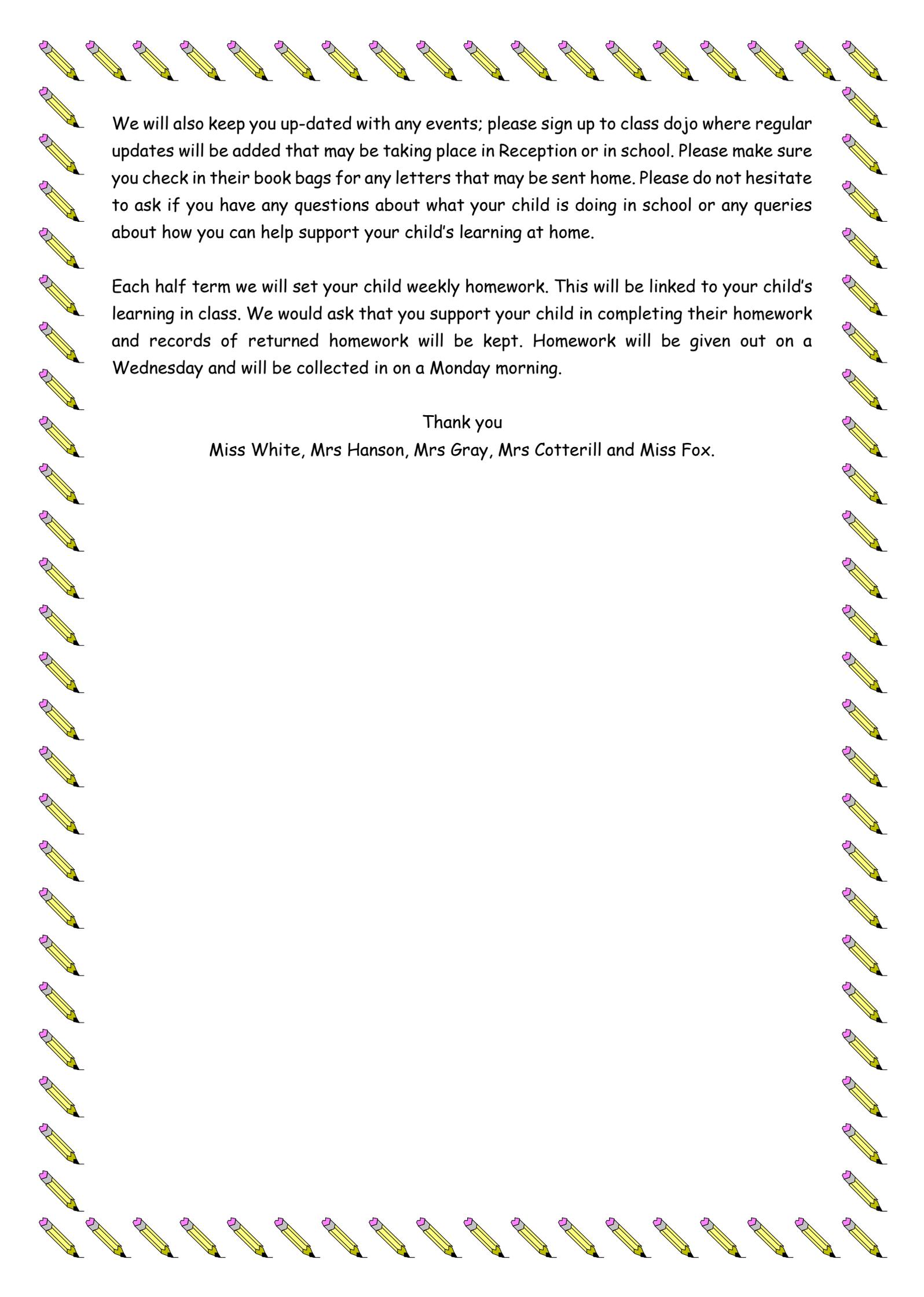
Understanding the World

This half term, the children will have lots of opportunities for exploring and investigating. They will be encouraged to investigate their environment and talk about what they can see, such as mini-beasts, buildings and shapes in the environment. They will also be able to make models out of various construction materials on both a large and small scale. In addition to this, your child will have plenty of opportunities to use various ICT equipment and will also be able to complete programs using the laptops and computers in school.



Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be looking at different musical instruments and will be learning how to play them and make up their own simple compositions. Your child will also be provided with a number of creative opportunities, including painting with various tools, modelling, creating pictures with different textures and learning what happens when colours are mixed. They will be encouraged to use their imagination in the role-play area and when creating puppet shows.



We will also keep you up-dated with any events; please sign up to class dojo where regular updates will be added that may be taking place in Reception or in school. Please make sure you check in their book bags for any letters that may be sent home. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions about what your child is doing in school or any queries about how you can help support your child's learning at home.

Each half term we will set your child weekly homework. This will be linked to your child's learning in class. We would ask that you support your child in completing their homework and records of returned homework will be kept. Homework will be given out on a Wednesday and will be collected in on a Monday morning.

Thank you

Miss White, Mrs Hanson, Mrs Gray, Mrs Cotterill and Miss Fox.