

Reception Newsletter Spring 1

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024. We hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break. A reminder that we will be sending out newsletters every half term. These newsletters will be more focused on our topic and what we will be learning will be over the coming half-term.

Under the Sea

Our topic for Spring 1 is Under the Sea! We will be learning about the fascinating creatures who inhabit our seas and oceans. We also be learning about how plastic pollution is damaging our planet, and what we can do to prevent it. Please see below for ideas on how you can explore this topic with your child at home.

Key words

- Ocean
- Gill
- Fin
- Pollution
- Recycle
- Habitat
- Coral

Books to read at home

- Sharing a Shell
- Rainbow Fish
- Deep in the Ocean
- Ocean Anatomy
- Commotion in the Ocean
- Clean Up!
- Somebody Swallowed Stanley

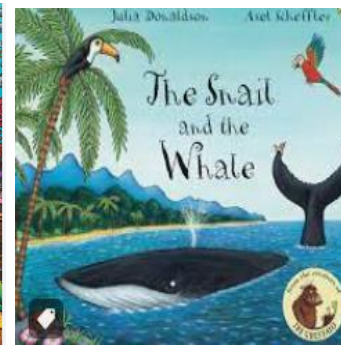
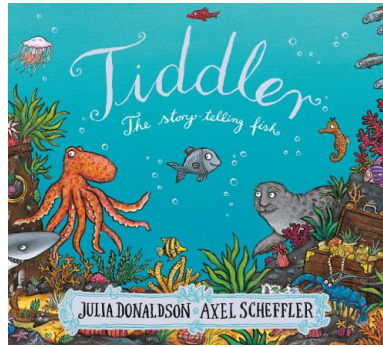
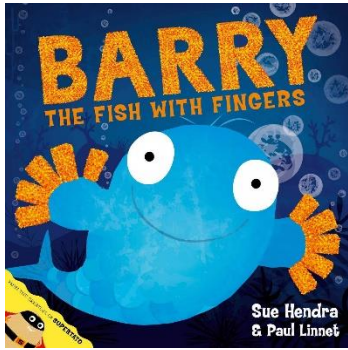
Ideas to try at home

- Make a wind sock sea creature
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YNcCvGBRdLw>
- Design and label a new shell for a crab
- Create your own aquatic world in miniature using natural materials



Literacy

In literacy, we will be reading *Barry the Fish with Fingers*, *Tiddler* and *The Snail and the Whale*. Our activities will include designing our own sea creatures, writing facts, and creating posters.



Maths

This half-term in maths we will be exploring the composition of numbers up to 8. We will also learn to compare mass and capacity.

Here are some ideas to support your child at home:

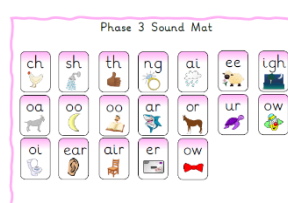
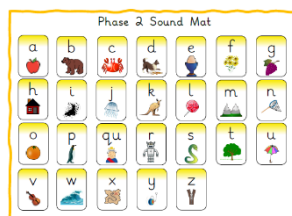
- Practise saying the days of the week
- Creating a balance scale out of a coat hanger and comparing mass
- Look at a calendar and find important events
- Explore composition by making numbers 1 - 8 with two different natural materials (feathers, stones, sticks etc)



Phonics

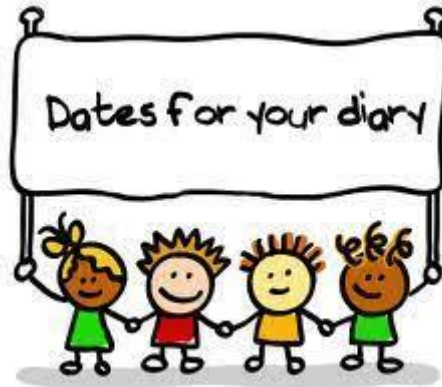
This term, some children will be consolidating phase two sounds we have been learning since September and some of us are beginning to learn phase 3 sounds.

We cannot stress enough the importance of having your child read to you **daily**. We are asking for a minimum of 10 minutes each day. It is noticeable when children are reading regularly at home.



Resources

We are gratefully accepting donations of construction and small world toys. We are looking for any clean old sheets, fabrics and pegs to develop our den building provision. Please continue to send in junk modelling (toilet and kitchen rolls, clean cardboard recycling and clean plastic recycling such as milk cartons).



Wednesday 7th February - Trip to Unicorn Theatre (parent/carer volunteers needed)

Friday 9th of February - Tutorial Day (school closed except for parent/carer meetings)

Thank you for your continued support!

Best wishes,

The Reception Team