



# RECEPTION NEWSLETTER SPRING -2024



**STARBECK**  
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Happy New Year!

Our topic this Half Term is 'Traditional Fairy Tales'



We will be reading lots of traditional stories, some with a twist! We will consider what the characters are like and where they live. We will be looking at maps and finding where we live on a map. We will also learn about Chinese New Year. This year is the year of The Dragon.



This half term we will be doing lots of cooking and baking. Sometimes we will make food that will be eaten at school and sometimes it will be sent home. May we ask you for a voluntary contribution of £2 per half term to help pay towards the cost of the cooking activities. Please send this to school in the envelope provided. **Please** let us know if your child has any food intolerances or allergies that we are not already aware of.

## Phonics and Writing

Children participate in daily phonics sessions. In Reception children will learn new phonemes and learn some tricky words each week. We are working at phase 3 and this half term we will learn the following **digraphs** (one sound made by two letters):

- Vowel digraphs: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

The children will be taught the letter names and the sound the digraph makes.

We will be singing the alphabet song.

We deliver the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds scheme which supports children with their learning. Your child will be provided with tricky words to learn at home and in school. Remember a tricky word can't be sounded out it just needs to be learnt from memory.

Try these songs

Phase 2 tricky words- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvMyssfAUx0&list=PLCLKSfIkRDSRP6OCf-lmOwAr2s7YILfkO>



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Phase 3 tricky words- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RO87lYrRpgY&list=PLCLKSfIkRDSRP6OCf-lmOwAr2s7YIlfkO&index=3>

Alphabet song-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5PmB3SIjNdQ>

Phonics play-Lots of good games

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/Phase3Menu.htm>

We are trying hard to write sentences now including a capital letter at the start, finger spaces between words and a full stop at the end. Please encourage your child to write at home. This could include shopping lists, sentences to go with their drawings, labelled maps of somewhere they have been. I'd love to see what they write at home so please upload it on to Tapestry or send it into school.

## Reading

Reading is very important in Reception, please support your child by hearing them read alongside sharing stories which you read aloud.

We will be continuing with our reading groups in class and then sending the same book home to share at home. Please don't worry if your child brings home a book they have brought home before. This can happen due to a change around in groups, however it is good practice for children to re visit books which they have read before and will have a good impact on their confidence to read.

## Maths

We will continue to gain a deep understanding of numbers. We want to develop children's number sense so that they understand the number rather than just recognising the numeral. Children need to understand that numbers can be represented in many ways, not just as a written numeral.

Another skill that is very important is recognising small amounts without the need to count them. This is a very important skill when children begin to add and subtract. Using dice is a good way to practise this skill before moving onto objects in different arrangements.



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## Sponsored Muddy Puddles Walk Money

Thank you so much for your generosity we raised an amazing £470

Resources are in the process of being ordered. As soon as they arrive we will send some pictures on Tapestry to show what we have bought.



## Outdoor Learning

The weather has now turned much colder so please send your child to school with winter woolies- hats and gloves are now vital as we learn outside in all weathers. Please make sure all clothing is labelled with your child's name.

## Milk

Milk is only free up until your child's fifth birthday, your child must be registered if you want them to still receive this. Forms are available from the school office or you can register online at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com). Some children find it distressing to no longer receive milk when their peers do, so please do check with your child if they wish to continue to get milk. During our daily snack time all children will continue to receive a free piece of fruit.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Lea and the Foundation Stage Team