

# Reception Class Newsletter

## 1<sup>st</sup> half spring term 2019



### Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that your break was a restful and enjoyable one. We have some exciting learning planned for our first half term of 2019. As always if you do have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher or your child's key-person. Here is some information about what is happening in reception this half term.

**Our half termly topic this term is:** Exploring

**What we will be learning as part of our topic:** there will be many wonderful learning experiences taking place this term, which include children exploring the learning environment inside and outside. Our main book will be *How to Catch a Star* by Oliver Jeffers. We will look closely at the book, learning to retell the story, story map it and we will write the story down. The book is very rich and imaginative so, we are hoping that the children's imagination will be stimulated in so many ways to make links and become very creative in their explorations. We will speak about our five senses and how they help us explore and we will provide exciting opportunities that enable the children to use all their five senses.

**What we will be learning in English:** We will continue with our daily phonics and guided reading sessions. A guided reading group is formed of 6 children reading the same book with an adult's guidance. We will continue to send books home for you to share with your child but every child will get the books in different days of the week as we would like to spend more time with the children while they are changing books, guiding them in their choices and even reading together. Therefore, only 6 children will be changing books each day. If you would like to change the books more often, please feel free to come and use our classroom library any time after school. The children will also be working on using their phonics skills to develop their writing. As part of our writing work we will be writing plans about what we would like to explore.

**What we will be learning in Maths:** This term we will be continuing to look at numbers, what they look like and what a number is (e.g. number 5 means 5 different objects, number 2 means two ears, one pear and one apple etc.) We will carry on counting groups of objects and exploring '**one more**' and '**one less**' during this half term. We will also be encouraging the children to think about and explain what they are doing. Reasoning is a very important skill that we would like the children to develop from a young age. We will also be exploring shapes, both 2D and 3D.

**Other activities, trips and events this half term:** Explore Arnold Circus and Shoreditch church yard

### What you can do to help

**Reading books:** Please make sure that your child's book bag comes in every day and that the books they've taken home are kept in them.

**Spare set of clothes and wellies:** If you have wellington boots please allow your child to have them in school as we enjoy an outdoor curriculum whatever the weather. They can come to school wearing their wellies on wet days if you prefer. If your child goes home in borrowed items of clothing, please return them washed as soon as possible.

### Things to remember:

- Remember! – School starts at 8.55. All children should be lined up and ready each morning
- **PE will start from next week.** This half term we will be doing PE in the bottom hall and for now the children will be taking their shoes and socks off. From next half term we will ask you to send a PE kit to school.
- Special books - if you'd like to take your child's book home please do, just let us know first.
- Spare clothes - please provide in a named plastic bag and hang on your child's peg.

**Other information:** If you ever have any concerns or would like to speak to us please feel free to do so! We are always happy to talk to you.

Also, we would like to ask you to send plastic bottles to school if you have any spares at home. As part of our topic, we are going to make rockets and we need a supply of plastic bottles. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Best wishes from the class team:** Cristiana – class teacher, Faheema - HLTA and Yumi – teaching assistant