

CURRICULUM LETTER

Reception - Spring 2



Ted Wragg TRUST

Exwick Heights Primary School

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February 25th 2025

Dear Parents/Carers of Exwick Heights Primary School Reception pupils,

Welcome back! Spring is in the air and we are bouncing into the second half of our first full year in school!

Our **Personal, Social and Emotional development** this half term explores the theme 'Healthy Me'. We will be learning about the ways in which exercise keeps us healthy and will think carefully about how we make healthy food choices. Sleep will be a focus! We will discuss the different ways that we prepare for and get ready for sleep and will learn about why sleep is good for us. We will make sure we are washing our hands carefully and talk about when we need to do this and why it is important. Stranger danger will also be covered, ensuring that the children know how to stay safe if a stranger approaches.



Supporting your child at home: Exercise together, in the park (Exwick Park has LOTS of exciting new equipment to enjoy) or at home. Bake some tasty, healthy treats together.

In **Communication, Language and Literacy**, we will continue to learn to read through early reading and phonics sessions. Specifically, we will be recapping and reviewing Phase 3 of the Little Wandle programme to ensure that the children are confident and secure with all of that sound that we have covered. Each week, we will revisit the GPCs ('Grapheme-Phoneme Correspondences' - how the letters and the sounds match), learnt during Spring 1 and consolidate reading and spelling the tricky words that we have learnt.

Week 1: GPCs – ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur oo ow oi ear (tricky words – the, I, put, pull, full)

Week 2: GPCs – er air, double letters, longer words (tricky words – full, push, and, go, no, of)

Week 3: Words with two or more digraphs (tricky words – no, of, to, into, she, he, we)

Week 4: Longer words, words ending in ing, compound words such as farmyard (tricky words – he, me, we, be, was, you, they, all)

Week 5: longer words, words ending in s or es (tricky words – they, all, by, my, are, sure, pure)

We will continue to build upon and develop a love of reading through daily story times and learning activities linked to key texts. As our phonic knowledge develops, we will also spend more time on writing activities.

Supporting your child at home: Please focus on reading at home. Each week, your child will bring home:

- a reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.
- a sharing book. Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.



In **Mathematics**, we will begin by focusing on length, height and time, before moving onto building the numbers 9 and 10. Finally, we will explore 3D shapes.

Supporting your child at home: count everywhere you go! Up and down steps, pieces of fruit in a bowl, toy cars in a garage, teddies on the bed. Spot common 3D shapes such as cubes, cuboids and spheres inside and outside the house.



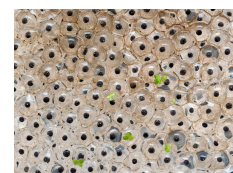
REACH THE HEIGHTS

In **Physical Development** sessions, we will continue to develop our confidence in fundamental movements such as balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and travelling. We will learn and refine a variety of shapes, jumps, balances and rolls and begin to link simple balances, jumps and travel actions together to form a sequence. Our dance and movement skills will develop as we count and move to beats of 8 and copy and repeat movement patterns, on our own, in a partner or as part of a larger group.

Supporting your child at home: this links brilliantly to our 'Healthy Me' topic. Encourage your child to play outdoors or indoors. How many ways can they travel around a room? Can they make different shapes with their body?

In **Understanding the World**, we will be using our homes to help us to understand past and present. Exploring technology and how things work will help us to compare what we have today with familiar situations years ago. As the days get longer and lighter and the animals and plants wake up again from winter, we will look for signs of Spring and explore the life cycle of an animal, observing changes over time and discussing why it is important to care for all living things in our environment. Pictures of frogspawn if you have any or eggs hatching into chicks are always welcome! Finally, we will find out all about Easter and discover why it is an important festival for Christians.

Supporting your child at home: talk with them about how different life was in the home when you were younger. Focus on technology - how much has changed in the last few years! Get out and about and look for signs of Spring.



In **Expressive Arts and Design**, we will be focusing on Design and Technology, developing our threading and weaving skills. We will design and make our own bookmarks, using threading or sewing. In Music, we will be learning about different instruments, thinking about the sounds that they make and exploring the ways in which they can represent moods, characters or actions. We will also be enjoying lots of singing, learning songs to celebrate Mother's Day and Easter.

Supporting your child at home: listen to lots of different types of music together at home. What does your child enjoy? Do you know anyone who plays a musical instrument? Find out more about it!

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher directly or email admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J. Mabin and Miss L. Bradbury
Picasso

Miss S. Dugdale
O'Keeffe