

## Reading



Reception children will continue daily phonics sessions this term. At George Tomlinson we use the Read Write Inc phonics scheme in Reception.

We will be starting guided reading sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (9- 9.20) and need parent helpers to come in and run groups with us. We will train you and support you in this, and would be very grateful if you can spare some time to support the children with their reading.

Please let your child's teacher or Ms Mendelsohn know if you or a family member would be available to help us.

Reading books are changed once a week. Children also take home a book from the library.

**Please ensure your child brings their reading pack (the clear wallet containing their reading record, reading book and library book) EVERY day.**

Please try to read with your child **every day**, and either sign and date their reading record, or write a comment to share with your child's Teacher. Your child will make more progress if you read with them at home.

If you would like tips on reading with your children, please ask your child's Class Teacher.

## Supporting Reception

In EYFS, we invite parents to make a £10 donation each term.

In the autumn term your money allowed us to provide daily snacks for the children, as well as for ingredients to make playdough and art supplies for our creative areas. Thank you so much for this.

We plan to use some of your Spring term donations to help us purchase the caterpillar eggs.

We also welcome contributions for junk modelling (egg cartons, cardboard boxes, bottles, etc) and natural resources for our mud kitchen such as avocado stones, pebbles, conkers and corks.

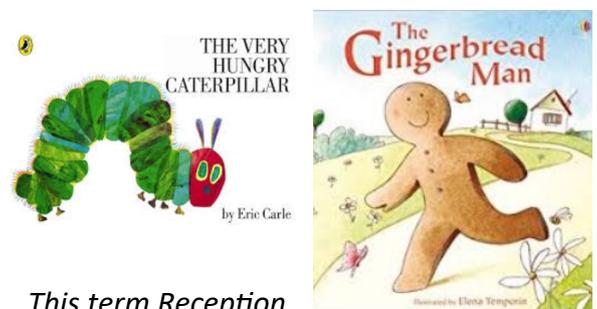
We would also welcome donations for the woodwork bench such as: plastic bottle lids, **offcuts of wood**, corks, lolly sticks, screws, nails etc.

We would like to put together an 'investigation box' for the children and would welcome donations of old or broken technology such as radios, clocks, keyboards, phones, cd players, cameras etc for the children to take apart!



Reception  
Newsletter  
Spring 2020

## Life cycles Traditional tales and animal stories



This term Reception will continue to focus on traditional tales. We will be baking gingerbread men and creating our own story maps. In the second half term we will be learning about life cycles. We will continue visiting the school field each Tuesday afternoon. We have some exciting projects including a delivery of caterpillar eggs which we will watch grow and change. We will continue to read a range of stories and non fiction books and will be focusing on and addition and subtraction using money in Maths.

Our Read Write Inc phonics programme will continue and we will be starting dailyreading in small groups supported by parent volunteers.

## The Reception Team:

**Head of EYFS: Jessica Mendelsohn**  
**Otters: Jo Moss (Head of Year), Jessica Mendelsohn (Fri) & Candace Rimmer**  
**Pine Martens: Tina Kent, Nargis Akhtar (Mon), Nazima Ghanchi & Clare Chica (Mon)**  
**Hedgehogs: Charlotte Garratt & Balvinder Panesar**

## Important Dates

### **Reception Family Morning:**

Thursday 13th February—9-9.45am

### **Half-term Break:**

17th-21st February

### **World Book Week (including sponsored read):**

2nd—6th March

### **World Book Character day:**

5th March—children dress up as a book character

### **International Women's Day:**

6th March

### **Science Week:**

9th—13th March

### **World Poetry Day:**

19th March

### **Trip to London Aquarium (incl. workshop)**

25th March

### **PTFA Spring Disco**

26th March

### **Easter Egg Hunt:**

30th March

### **World Autism Awareness Day:**

1st April

### **Easter Bonnet Parade:**

2nd April

### **End of term:**

2nd April

## Projects

We will be planting trees with the Woodland Trust in order to combat air pollution and climate change and we will have caterpillar eggs delivered and be watching them as they grow and change.

We will be learning to use more of our woodworking tools this term. We would very much appreciate donations of off-cuts of wood, as the children love to get busy creating!

Our staff team will be taking part in a music workshop delivered by Charanga Ltd in March. Following this, we plan to create our own musical instruments from junk to create a junk orchestra.

We will be visiting the London Aquarium to take part in the 'Journey Through the Sea—Sensory Workshop' in March. We are looking forward to this as it will teach the children about different marine habitats and explore the impact of plastic pollution on our world.

## Children's Clothing

### **Uniforms and book bags**

Please ensure that your child wears their full school uniform each day. Please label your children's clothing with name labels or permanent marker. Please ensure your child brings their books and reading record to school every day.

### **PE**

The children will have a PE lesson every Tuesday. Please make sure they have a named PE kit (white t-shirt, navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms and plimsolls) each week.

### **Well being**

Children sometimes require a change of clothes at school. Please ensure that your child has a spare set of clothes to change into in the event of an accident, including pants and socks. Please ensure these clothes are named.

### **Wellies**

We will be going to the field every Tuesday afternoon. Please bring in a pair of wellies clearly labelled with your child's name.

## Planning in the Moment

The cycle of observation, assessment, planning and observation at George Tomlinson is carried out on a moment-by-moment basis. Each week, approximately 10% of the class will be focus children.

Some interactions and activities that occur are recorded when the cycle is complete. These records are on the learning journeys of the focus children and on "in the moment" planning sheets for activities in which a group become involved.

We work this way because young children are experiencing and learning in the here and now, not storing up their questions until tomorrow or next week. It is in that moment of curiosity, puzzlement, effort or interest—the "teachable moment" - that the skillful adult makes a difference.

By using this cycle on a moment-to-moment basis, the adult will be always alert to individual children (observation), always thinking about what it tells us about the child's thinking (assessment), and always ready to respond by using appropriate strategies at the right moment to support children's well-being and learning (planning for the next moment).

When your child is a focus child you will receive notification the week before. We will give you a sheet to complete and ask you to take some pictures over the weekend. The week after your child has been a focus child, the class teacher will meet with you to discuss your child's learning. This will replace the traditional parents' evening.