

EYFS Reception Newsletter

Spring 2nd Half Term 2026

What a busy half term we had with our *Dress to Impress* topic and Chinese New Year. We discovered all kinds of things, from finding out about the different clothes worn by people throughout history, to experimenting with capacity and investigating waterproof materials. We talked about our own favourite outfits, the uniforms that people wear to work, and traditional clothes worn around the world.

Our topic this half term is 'Once Upon A Time'

Our key Learning Questions are:

- What happens when things get hot or cold?
- Which season are we in now?
- Which animals are born in Spring?
- What might we see on a farm?
- What will happen if I plant a seed?

Some of our core texts will be:

- Jack and the Beanstalk
- Hansel and Gretel
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears



Pick 'n' mix of things you can do at home to enhance your child's learning around this topic:

- Plant some seeds or bulbs and learn how to look after them and observe how they grow.
- Search your kitchen for different foods and then sort them into groups: e.g. from plants/not, healthy/unhealthy.
- Look at different types of houses around where you live and investigate the odd and even house numbers.
- Read traditional tales and then retell them verbally, through acting them out or through drawing pictures.
- Sing nursery rhymes together, identify the words that rhyme or are alliterative.
- Look at maps and draw maps for journeys you go on (e.g. your journey to the shop or to school).
- Explore 3D shapes (names and properties), and practise finding number bonds to 5, and then 10.

You can upload photos/videos of any of these activities on Tapestry along with your child's comments.

Meet the EYFS Reception team:

Dublin teacher: Miss Rimell

Oslo teacher: Mr Gill

Dublin TA: Mrs Williams

Oslo TA: Miss Frankish



Some Reception dates for your diary (Spring Term 2):

23rd February: Back to school
5th March: World Book Day
18th & 19th March: Parent/Carer Teacher Consultations
20th March: Red Nose Day
23rd March: Trip to White Post Farm
27th March: Last day of school

Useful Information

We have a busy half term coming up with lots of art and DT activities. If you have an surplus craft supplies at home (for example, sequins, googly eyes, pipe cleaners, pom poms, buttons), that you would like to donate, they will be greatly received.

Phonics: Just a reminder that the phonics tiles your child has received in their book bags this academic year will support the skills of recognising phonemes and segmenting (sounding out words for spelling) and blending (pushing the sounds together to read the word). **This helps them learn how to read and write.**

Reading: Our expectation is that you listen to your child read their book **at least three times a week** so that they become fluent and confident with reading. The **phonics letter sound tiles** can be used as flashcards or to spell or read simple words with. Your child also has '**tricky**' words to practise, as recognising these non- decodable words on sight will improve the fluency of your child's reading and also their spelling. As well as this, can share other stories with your child (books from the library, stories you have at home, or the 'star sticker' book that they choose in school) to help foster a love of books.

Maths: This half term we will be focusing on the numbers **9 and 10** in great depth (for example, finding one more and one less, **partitioning** the numbers and investigating different **representations**. We will also be learning about length, height and time.

Things to remember

Each day your child needs to bring to school:

- Named bottle filled with water.
- Book bag (please keep emptying these regularly to help keep our books in their best condition)
- In EYFS we use the **outdoors** in **all weathers** so your child needs a **warm waterproof coat everyday**.

Please hear your child read at home **at least 3 times a week** and write in their reading record when you have read.

No jewellery except for stud earrings.

PE: We do PE on **Friday**. Your child should **keep their PE kit at home** and come to school **wearing their PE kit and trainers each Friday**. In colder weather, they should wear navy blue jogging bottoms/leggings instead of shorts.

Labelling: Just a reminder to please make sure that **ALL** of your child's clothing and possessions are clearly labelled with their name (especially **jumpers** and **sun hats**).