

# What are Reception Year learning at school in Spring Term 2020?

## Our theme is **Turrets and Tiaras**



<p><b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b></p>	<p>The rules and routines of the area and school will continue to be reinforced. Children will be working together as a part of a team to make castles and to tell stories. Talk Focus time will be used to discuss citizenship e.g. Why we need rules, looking after other people's property (Jack and the Beanstalk) and feelings, being truthful, and protecting our environment. We will also look at differences, kindness and how to control our emotions through the Beauty and the Beast story.</p>
<p><b>Communication and Language</b></p>	<p>The children will discuss what they already know about castles and what they would like to find out. This information will be used to inform our planning. They will learn new words when discussing the parts of the castle e.g. turret, drawbridge, moat etc. We will use various castle and dragon themed books as a focus for our reading, writing and storytelling such as Lullabyhullaboo, Jack and the Beanstalk, Beauty and the Beast, Zog and Too Hot to Hug. The children will be given the opportunity to talk in full sentences and extend their vocabulary each day through a daily talk focus, this will also introduce the children to new words and improve their listening skills.</p>
<p><b>Physical Development</b></p>	<p>The children will take part in a weekly P.E session led by a specialist Sports coach, this term it will be Gymnastics. The children will strengthen their body core through physical activities in and out of the classroom. Children will continue to take part in move and groove sessions each day to strengthen their muscles ready for writing. We will incorporate Movement for Learning within their sessions. This is a specific programme of exercises intended to improve their muscle strength.</p>
<p><b>Literacy</b></p>	<p>The children will continue learning the initial 'Sounds Write' code in phonics and will learn to segment and blend ccvc and cvcc words. They will also continue to learn a range of tricky words in phonics lessons (a list of these can be found in the back of their reading record book for you to practise at home). The children will have many opportunities to write independently within the role play and small world areas as well as through weekly Champion's Challenges. They will also have guided writing and reading sessions to improve their skills.</p>
<p><b>Mathematical Development</b></p>	<p>We will be learning about numbers 11-20 this term. The children will begin to use the vocabulary of addition and subtraction in practical activities. They will continue to use mathematical names and terms to describe flat 2d shapes in practical activities. The children will practically use the vocabulary of length and times of the day e.g. morning, afternoon, night. Number recognition, counting and ordering numbers to 20 will continue to be a large focus throughout the year so please practise these elements of number at home with your child as much as possible.</p>
<p><b>Understanding the World</b></p> 	<p>The children will learn about life long ago in a castle. They will name and practically use a variety of materials. The children will also investigate how to keep a dragon cool, what a plant needs in order to grow and what materials would be best to use to make a pair of glasses for a giant. The children will also be learning about life as a Chinese boy or girl to celebrate Chinese New Year. They will make and taste Chinese food and will make pancakes to celebrate pancake day too.</p>
<p><b>Expressive, Arts and Design</b></p>	<p>The children will make a castle and other objects eg crowns, shields for their role play area and make Chinese New Year artefacts eg money bags, dragons and 'Beauty and the Beast' art. They will learn how to fix boxes together and build castles using junk. The children will learn songs related to castles. They will listen to Chinese music, use instruments and be involved in a class dragon dance.</p>

<p><b>Other Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Stunning Starter:</b> We began our topic with a sword and a letter left in the wooden hut outside. The children were asked who might have left them and where they might live. <b>Rockingham Castle visit:</b> We hope to take the children to Rockingham Castle on the 27<sup>th</sup> March to learn more about castles. Please send your letters and payments back by the 24<sup>th</sup> February for the trip to go ahead.</p>
<p><b>Phonics</b></p>	<p>We will continue with the Sounds Write initial code in phonics which includes the single sounds as well as some digraphs. The children will be reading and writing cvc, ccvc and cvcc words in these sessions and any extra practise at home would be beneficial. They will also continue to learn some 'tricky words'. These have been sent home for you to practise with your children, please do this every day or as often as possible and we will check them in school on a Wednesday.</p>
<p><b>Requests</b></p>	<p><b>Envelopes:</b> If anyone has any spare envelopes at home that they do not want please could you send them in for the children to use. The children love to write letters and it gives them a purpose for writing.</p> <p><b>Toys:</b> If anyone has any woodland animal plastic figures, arctic animal plastic figures, castle toys or books, minibeast toys or books or any dolls suitable for a dolls house then please could you let your child's class teacher know. They would be gratefully received.</p> <p><b>Volunteer Readers:</b> We urgently need volunteers to hear children read in school. If anybody can volunteer to come into school to hear children read on a regular basis please see your child's class teacher.</p>
<p><b>Homework</b></p>	<p>Please continue to <b>read regularly and practise key words</b> with your child as this has a positive effect on their learning in school. We have noticed that some children are not reading regularly (some not at all) at home, <b>children who do read regularly at home are progressing at a much faster pace than those who do not</b>. Just 5-10 minutes three times a week of reading with your child will benefit them immensely, it is so important that they are provided with this opportunity at home to practise the skills that they are taught at school. Books are changed once per week if your child has read and there is a comment in their book, it is important for them to read the same book more than once as this gives them the opportunity to consolidate their learning through repetition.</p>