

Head Teacher : Mrs D Reynolds  
BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Email: [office@norwood.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:office@norwood.peterborough.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.norwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.norwoodschool.co.uk)



**Norwood Primary School**  
Gunthorpe Road  
Gunthorpe  
Peterborough  
PE4 7DZ  
Telephone : 01733 574717  
Fax : 01733 703250

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all of your support during the Spring Term. Many of the children are following daily routines independently and adapting well to school life.

In order to continue to develop their independence and prepare them for Key Stage 1, we will be beginning to eat lunch and play on the large playground with the rest of school from after half term. Children will eat their lunch in the hall and then be accompanied onto the playground with their Y6 buddy. We will introduce this slowly to begin with, with groups of Reception children going onto the playground with their buddy at lunchtimes. By the end of the Spring Term we plan for all Reception children to be eating in the hall and going on the main playground for the full dinner hour. Our topic next half term continues to be 'Animals'. During this half term our activities will focus on:

- Farm animals and wild animals
- Animal patterns
- Life cycles
- Dinosaurs

#### First hand experiences

##### Hamerton Zoo

We have booked the trip to Hamerton Zoo for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. We still need adults to accompany us on the trip to enable us to reach our minimum adult: child ratio. If you are available on this day and are interested in coming along, please speak to a member of the Reception team. Please bear in mind, there will be a charge of £6.50 entrance fee for adults.

<http://www.hamertonzoopark.com/index.htm>

##### Animals in the classroom

A parent of one of the children has kindly offered to bring in their family dog to meet the children and to share how pet dogs are cared for. We are planning the visit for early next half term. If your child has a fear of dogs or you feel they may need to be supported by an adult during the visit, please inform a member of the Reception class so that we may enable the visit to be as stress free as possible for your child.

We have approached 'The Happy Chick Company'. This company provide schools with a collection of eggs for a period of two weeks. During this time, the children get to see the chicks hatch and then look after them as they grow. This amazing experience would teach the children about caring for animals, life cycles and the growth of young animals. The learning theme for Year 1 and 2 will be 'All Creatures Great and Small' and so we plan to share this experience with them. This experience will cost £2.50 per child. Further details will follow early next half term. However if you wish to find out more, please follow the link below:

<http://www.thehappychickcompany.co.uk/chick-hatching-at-schools.html>

##### Pedestrian Training- change to previously published dates!

'Stepping out Together' the Pedestrian Training scheme for children will be coming into Reception to support them and their families in crossing the road safely. Unfortunately the trainers have had to change the dates due to a double booking with another school. Therefore the new dates for this opportunity are Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March. There will be two sessions each day. These are 9:15 am and 10:30 am. Each session lasts approximately 45 minutes. Ideally each child should be accompanied by a family member to support the children in receiving consistent messages



about keeping safe. However, if this is not possible, we will endeavour to provide a familiar adult from school to support your child in the training programme. A more detailed letter will be sent out at the beginning of March in order for parents/carers to book a suitable time slot.

### Home learning project

Thank you so much for all of your family efforts with the home learning projects. It's wonderful to see so many children enjoying learning at home. They have been thrilled to share this in class and all have been displayed in the classroom. If possible, we would like to keep hold of them until the end of February to enable us all to share in all of the children's hard work. We will return all projects at the beginning of March. Parents/ carers are more than welcome to look at the variety of projects displayed in the classroom. This term we have had model animals, pictures of fish tanks and cats, books with drawings and photographs, and even a film about a family pet!

The home learning project for the coming half term can be about any of the sub topics we will be covering. These are:

- Farm animals and wild animals
- Animal patterns
- Life cycles
- Dinosaurs

The children could present a project about their favourite dinosaur, sing a rhyme or song about an animal, make a model or book of a lifecycle, or create a picture of an animal showing how its pattern camouflages it in its natural environment. The choice is yours! The project is due in during the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

### Core Learning Skills

The Core Learning Skills for the approaching half term is known as 'Knowing Me, Knowing You'. Reception will focus on:

- I can identify a friend.
- I can share my beliefs with others.
- I can say something I'm good at.
- I can identify when I need to seek help from others.

### Read, Write Inc

Read, Write, Inc is proving to be very successful and the children are thoroughly enjoying their learning. Groups are now organised into those who are reading books (revising set 1 sounds and learning set 2 sounds), Ditties (short phrases using Set 1 sounds) and those who continue to revise Set 1 sounds. Some children are beginning to bring home scheme reading books. These are provided once children are gaining the ability and confidence to blend sounds.

### Sharing Celebrations- Change of date for Mother's Day assembly!

We will be sharing a Mother's Day performance on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 2:15pm. This is a week earlier to the original date advertised in the previous letter due to a printing error in the school diaries. The date has been moved to coincide with Mothering Sunday. Mums are invited to join us. The performance will be performed by Reception with singing accompaniment from Year 1 and Year 2. In order to comply with fire regulations, one seat will be allocated to each child. However, any seats that are not required by individuals will be distributed to those that request spare tickets with Reception families as a priority. Please note that spare seats cannot be guaranteed.



### General information

Please continue to leave your child's full PE kit in school from Monday to Friday. Please ensure that your child has appropriate indoor and outdoor PE clothing within their kit.

Please continue to provide your child with a water bottle. Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day. We also have a water fountain that the children may use. Children are welcome to drink juice and squash at lunchtimes. This needs to be in a separate bottle and kept with your child's lunchbox. Milk is also available at breaktime. As a healthy school, we only allow children to drink water at any other time.

We currently provide milk and fruit for all children within Reception class. Fruit is provided by a government scheme for all children up to the age of 7. However, we are only permitted to provide free milk for children under the age of five.

If you would like your child to continue to have milk after their fifth birthday, please complete a form and post it to the *Cool Milk* company. Milk forms are attached to the Reception Notice board.

It is vital that all items of your child's clothing are named. As personal items are difficult to recognise, it will enable members of the team to identify your child's clothing immediately. If unnamed items of clothing are found, they will be placed in the *Lost Property* box in the children's cloakroom.

The *Parent/Carer's Notice Board* is continually updated. We hope you are finding it useful. If you have any suggestions that you would like us to add, please let the Reception Team know.

If you wish to speak to members of the Reception Team, we are available from 8:45-8:55 am and 3:15-3:25 pm. For longer discussions please make an appointment at the office.

Thank you for all of your support with your child's learning.

Yours Sincerely,  
The Reception Team

Miss J. Swift

Mrs L.Lewin

Miss L.Back

Miss J. Greenwood

Mrs D.Reynolds

