



## Reception - Term 4

We have had so much fun this term learning all about dinosaurs and space!

We began our dinosaur topic with a visit from Mrs Mollins, the author of '10 Cretaceous Dinosaurs'. We learnt lots of facts throughout the topic and the children wowed us by writing fantastic dinosaur facts. We compiled these together and created a class information book. The children were extremely proud of themselves and have enjoyed referring to themselves as authors!

We then learnt about space, answering the critical question 'I Wonder What is in Space?' We learnt about planets, stars, meteor showers and rockets! We loved visiting Mr G's space dome where we watched the story of Astronaut Ted who wanted to know which planet to plant his flower on. We then enjoyed a fantastic 'Space Day' where we made planets, navigated an obstacle course, made space biscuits and danced to music at a disco!

Next term we will be learning about Fairytales and Life Cycles. We will have some tiny, fluffy visitors arriving towards the end of the term. Can you guess what they are?...

We will also be celebrating World Book Day in March by reading the text 'Change Sings.'

*The Reception Team*

Maths	Literacy and Theme
<p><b>We use NCTEM: Mastering Number to support our Maths Learning in Reception. During term 4 we will cover:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Counting, ordinality and cardinality</b> – Focus on the 'staircase' pattern and ordering numbers</li><li>• <b>Comparison</b> – Focus on ordering of numbers to 8 and using language of less than</li><li>• <b>Composition</b> – Focus on 7, doubles and odd and even numbers</li></ul>	<p>For Term 4, these are our new critical questions and how it relates to our 'home, near and far' curriculum:</p> <p><b>I wonder what a fairytale is?</b></p> <p><b>Home</b> – Thinking about characters and traditional stories that are familiar to us</p> <p><b>Near</b> – Learning about the different settings of Fairytales</p>
Phonics	

**We follow the Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) Scheme to teach Phonics in Reception.**

**We have now learnt the following GPC's:**

Term 1: s a t p i n m d g o c k c k e u r s s h b f ff l ll

Term 2: j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng nk ai ee igh oa

Term 3: ar ur oo (book) oo (moon) or ow (town) oi ear air ure er ow (snow)

**We have learnt the following HRS words:**

Term 1: I, the, no, put, of, is, to, go, into, pull, as, his

Term 2: he, she, buses, we, me, be, push, was, her, my, you

Term 3: they, all, are, ball, tall, when, what

**In Term 4** we will not be learning any new sounds (GPC's) and will instead be focusing on applying all previously taught sounds to our reading and writing.

**We will learn the following HRS words:**

said, so, have, were, out, like, some, come, there, little, one, do, children, love

It would be very beneficial to ensure your children are confident recognising, recording and blending the sounds we have previously learnt. We highlight the sounds and HRS words your child knows following each termly assessment. Please speak to your class teacher if you have any questions or need any support with this.

**You can help your child practise the sounds they have been learning at school. Follow this link to check how the sounds should be pronounced:**

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/please-log-in>

**Far** – Learning different traditional tales and stories from different countries and cultures

***I wonder what a life cycle is?***

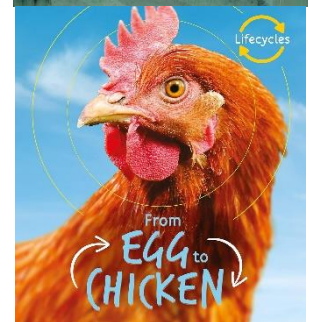
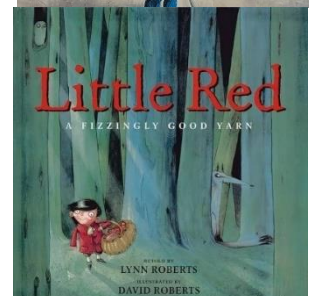
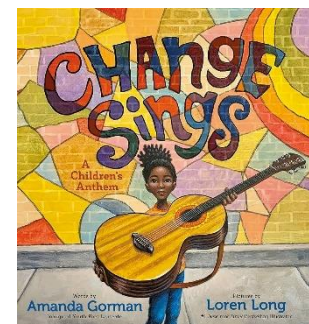
**Home** – Human life cycles – how we grow and change over time

**Near** – Life cycle of a chick

**Far** – Life cycle of other animals such as frogs and caterpillars

We will continue to introduce new high-level vocabulary through our 'word of the day'

Here are some of the texts we will be sharing with the children next term:



## Messages

### Forest School

Next Term the children will be starting Forest School once a fortnight on a Wednesday. This means children will be taking part in PE and Forest School on

the same day, so please look at the weather and ensure children have appropriate layers. Please see separate letter attached from our Forest School Leader providing more information on this.

### **Donations**

Boxes of tissues  
Paper straws  
Baby wipes  
Shaving foam  
Junk modelling – boxes, bottles, kitchen roll and toilet roll tubes  
Pipe cleaners, pom poms, feathers  
Natural resources – corks, pine cones, shells, pebbles

### **Reading Records**

We have been so impressed with the number of children across Reception who have been reading regularly at home and earning their raffle tickets! It is so important that children read regularly at home to consolidate their phonics learning and to develop fluency and confidence. Please ensure that you record any reading in your child's reading record.

We will now be setting Oxford Owl online books on a Monday, as we will not be learning any new sounds this term. Please ensure that you log on, as this is the children's primary source of reading. These books are matched directly to the current phonics learning and allows the children to practice their skills.