



BROOKFIELD SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Reception Spring Term Curriculum Letter

It is lovely to have the children back after the Christmas break, rested and happy to see their classmates again. This half-term our theme is **Innovation** and for the second half-term it will be **Communication**. As far as is possible, the different areas of learning will link back to these themes, with a different key text each week. On the next page, we have outlined our main focus for each area of learning, although provision in the Early Years also enables children to follow their own interests alongside this.

This term, in line with new government guidelines, we will be moving over to the Little Wandle phonics programme. We have planned for a smooth transition and the children will continue to receive high quality daily phonics lessons. Links and resources which support the Little Wandle programme will be uploaded to Google Classroom in due course. As the children's phonics knowledge continues to grow, it is crucial that you support this at home with daily reading. Re-reading books helps children to become more fluent readers, so please do try to read books more than once. The children will continue to choose a picture book each week for you to read to them, as being read to supports children's early reading development as well as instilling a love of books!

Focus child meetings will start this term. Each week we will focus on two children, after which we will arrange a meeting with you to provide individual feedback and discuss your child's interests, strengths and any areas for development. If you have any questions or need to arrange to speak with one of us, please get in touch using the email reception@brookfield.camden.sch.uk or have a word with us at drop of or pick up – we're happy to help.

Best wishes,
Seren, Becca and Kate

Key dates for your diary:

Thursday 27th January – Reception trip to Hampstead Heath
Thurs 27th January – Open Afternoon (Reception finish at 1.10pm)
Fri 28th January - INSET Day (School closed to children)
Fri 4th February – Safeguarding workshop for parents and carers 9am
14th – 18th February – Half Term
4th March – Chair of Governors and Head Teacher coffee morning
1st April - Last day of Spring term

Weekly schedule:

Monday: Reading diaries, reading books and picture books **due in**
Music with Julia
Tuesday: Reading diaries, reading books and picture books **sent home**
Wednesday: Acorn and Conker Class PE Lessons

Themes: Innovation and Communication



Our value of the term is kindness

We will explore the concept of kindness through picture books and in circle time discussions. Each class has a kindness chart which we will use to celebrate acts of kindness in the classroom.

Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development – We will focus on the development of problem-solving skills and helping the children to understand that mistakes are an important part of learning. The children will be encouraged to reflect on and self-evaluate their work.

Physical Development – The focus of weekly PE lessons will be gymnastics where the children will learn to perform a range of rolls and balances, to make different shapes with their bodies and learn simple routines. They will make use of a range of climbing and balance equipment. The development of fine motor skills will be supported through daily handwriting practise and working with a range of tools and techniques on innovative model projects.

Communication and Language - This term we will be developing the children's oracy skills through the use of discussion guidelines. Show and tell sessions will also give children the opportunity to develop their questioning skills. We will continue to teach the children new vocabulary, linked to our key texts and to share lots of stories, poems and rhymes which the children will be supported to retell using puppets and props. Our oral story this term, which the children will learn off by heart and then innovate with, will be Owl Babies.

Literacy - In phonics, the children will be learning phase 3 vowel graphemes such as **ai** and **ee** and new tricky words. After half-term, we will be introducing group reading sessions with books which are carefully matched to your child's phonics knowledge. These will then be sent home with your child, ensuring that they are only bringing home books which they can read relatively fluently.

Maths – We will continue our work on number using the maths mastery approach. Children will work with numbers within ten, subitising, counting, composing and comparing amounts. We will also look at measure, focusing on length and weight. Where possible, maths will link to our weekly theme, for example when we learn about the postal system we will weigh letters and parcels.

Understanding the World - This term we will learn about and celebrate the Lunar New Year, comparing it to the festivals of Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas which the children learned about last term. We will continue to learn about seasonal changes in our environment with a focus on winter. Within the area of past and present, we will be finding out about Leonardo Da Vinci and some of his most significant accomplishments.

Expressive Arts and Design – In our weekly Music lessons, we will be preparing for our workshop and concert with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, on the theme of 'Going on a journey'. In Art, as part of our theme 'Innovation', the children will design and make a range of original and inventive models using junk modelling materials and the woodwork bench. Small world and role play resources linked to our key texts will continue to be provided to help children develop their own narratives.

Photo: Examples of children's shoe construction