

April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break and were able to enjoy some of the Spring weather. Welcome to the new families and children who are joining Nursery this term.

This term our topic is called 'Sun, Sea, Sand'. We will be learning about the seaside and will be encouraging children to share their experiences of trips to the beach or sandpits. We will start the term by pretending to explore the seaside so we can find out about the different animals that we can find, as well as the different human features such as traditional seaside food and sandcastles. We will be building rockpools, creating rockpool animals, trying traditional foods and building our own sandcastles. We will then find out how the seaside has changed over time, before learning to stay safe at the beach by learning about the RNLI. We will build lighthouses and learn about the bravery of Grace Darling. We will then look at different beaches around the world and spot similarities and differences. There will be opportunities to explore melting and freezing and capacity.

In Drawing Club, we will be focussing on books linked to our Sun, Sea, Sand topic. The children will continue to learn vocabulary each week and describe and draw their own response to a given question linked to the chosen book. They will be encouraged to chat about their ideas with their friends. Guided Reading will continue for Reception children so they can discuss stories together and practice key reading skills.

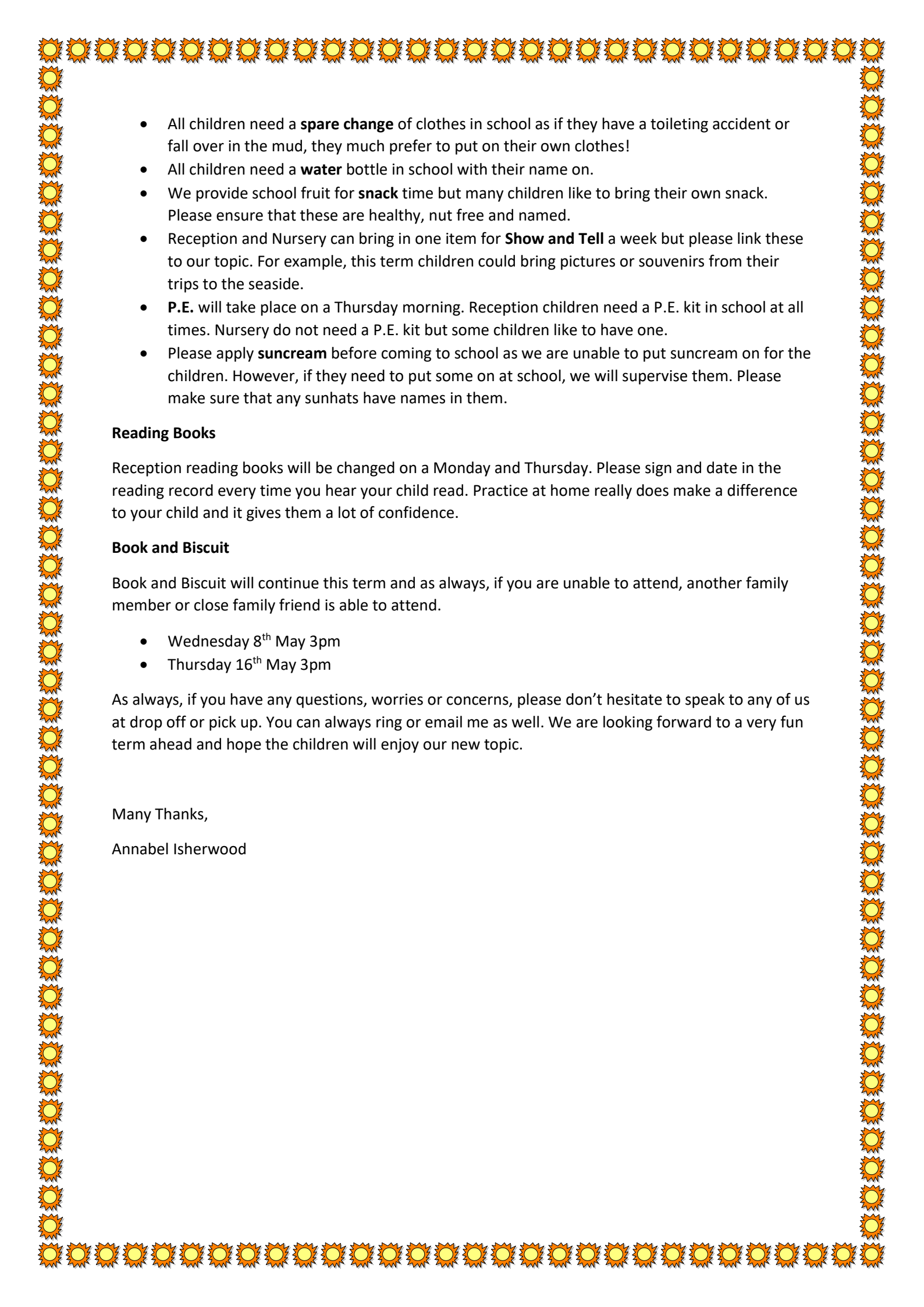
In Phonics, Reception will continue to learn tricky words and alternative sounds each week. There will also be many opportunities to consolidate reading and writing skills. We will be focusing on forming letters correctly and remembering to use full stops and capital letters.

'Talking Time' will continue daily for Nursery children with a focus on listening skills. Some Nursery children will be going on listening walks to identify different sounds in the environment, other children will start to explore sounds in words with alliteration based games. All children will listen to stories and join in discussions. They will be encouraged to give meanings to the marks that they make and those who are ready, will be encouraged to use their letter knowledge when writing.

In Maths, Reception will start the term by exploring patterns in the number system, including recognising odd and even numbers. They will also practice counting beyond 20. They will then consolidate their understanding of doubling and halving and will use their knowledge of odd and even numbers to solve problems. They will recap numbers to 10, including addition and subtraction practice and recalling one more and one less facts. They will also practice forming their numbers correctly. Nursery children will start the term learning to sequence familiar stories and events and using the correct language. They will play games to enable them to use and understand positional language. Nursery will explore more than and less/fewer than and will practice their 1:1 correspondence when counting. All children will then explore capacity and 2D and 3D shapes.

Useful Information:

- **Dennis**, our class bear, will be going home with a child each week. Please complete the book so your child can talk about their time with Dennis. Please email me any photos you would like printing or share them to Tapestry.
- Reception have worked so hard on their tricky words and are now confidently reading and writing many of them. Please continue to practice these at home.
- Reception **homework** will still be given on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday. Please remember that your child does not need to complete this.

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- All children need a **spare change** of clothes in school as if they have a toileting accident or fall over in the mud, they much prefer to put on their own clothes!
 - All children need a **water** bottle in school with their name on.
 - We provide school fruit for **snack** time but many children like to bring their own snack. Please ensure that these are healthy, nut free and named.
 - Reception and Nursery can bring in one item for **Show and Tell** a week but please link these to our topic. For example, this term children could bring pictures or souvenirs from their trips to the seaside.
 - **P.E.** will take place on a Thursday morning. Reception children need a P.E. kit in school at all times. Nursery do not need a P.E. kit but some children like to have one.
 - Please apply **suncream** before coming to school as we are unable to put suncream on for the children. However, if they need to put some on at school, we will supervise them. Please make sure that any sunhats have names in them.

Reading Books

Reception reading books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday. Please sign and date in the reading record every time you hear your child read. Practice at home really does make a difference to your child and it gives them a lot of confidence.

Book and Biscuit

Book and Biscuit will continue this term and as always, if you are unable to attend, another family member or close family friend is able to attend.

- Wednesday 8th May 3pm
- Thursday 16th May 3pm

As always, if you have any questions, worries or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to any of us at drop off or pick up. You can always ring or email me as well. We are looking forward to a very fun term ahead and hope the children will enjoy our new topic.

Many Thanks,

Annabel Isherwood