



Reception Weekly Newsletter – 21st March 2022

Hello Reception Parents and Carers! We wanted to start this newsletter with such a huge thank you to all of you for donating gardening supplies for us to be able to grow flowers, plants, fruits and vegetables; all of the children are benefitting so much from this wonderful project about growth. This week the children have loved the story of The Crunching Munching Caterpillar whose dream it was to fly. The children learned about a caterpillar's life cycle through the amazing pop up artwork. They also drew on their previous experience of The Hungry Caterpillar story and watched with wonder the time lapse video of a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. The children enjoyed our small world habitats and mini beasts to help them retell the story of The Crunching Munching Caterpillar. The beans the children had planted previously are flourishing; their patience and care for the seedlings has been rewarded. In maths, the children continue to be excited by the bigger teen numbers and finding 2 numbers that added together make teen numbers. They also enjoyed using a 0 to 20 number line to help them find teen number totals. We continue to practise recognising, naming and describing the basic properties of 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes. The children loved learning about St Patrick's day and performing their Irish dances. We are still receiving Gingerbread person adventure stories which is also very exciting.

We also wanted to say how lovely it has been to talk with you all about your children and their progress in parents evenings this week. We are putting their targets that we discussed with you in their book bags on Friday!

Now for the fun we have planned next week which focuses on the lifecycle of a frog – please see below a brief summary of what your child will be up to at school as well as a few reminders. If you have any questions, please email office.hisn@hpp.school and we will try and get back to you as quickly as possible.

This week we will be learning - Week Beginning 21st March 2022

- The focus book for next week is 'Oscar and the Frog' which explores the changes that happen as a tadpole changes into a frog.
- In phonics, we will be recapping all of the sounds we have learnt so far: k/ l/ r/ u /ck /b/ g/ h/ c/ a/ i/ m/ s/ t/ n/ o/ p/ d/ v/ f/ e / j/ w/ z/x/y/ff/ll/ss/zz. The children will build these sounds into simple words and will then have a go at writing the words down. The children are also practising writing simple sentences of up to 8 words now. Our everyday words are: we, all and so. We practise reading and writing these words. We are also introducing the children to sentence starters eg I like, I went and I am.
- Our children will continue to focus on their pencil grip and letter formation in the daily handwriting session. They exercise their hands using funky finger activities which they love. This week we will practise our curly letters **r, b, n, h, m, k, p**. The children really love this very gentle activity which allows them to focus on forming a single letter using the rhymes (that we sent home in bookbags).
- In maths, we will continue to recognise, identify and name teen numbers (11 to 20). We will begin to use the part part whole model to find teen number totals and will start to find missing teen numbers on a number line. We will continue to recap 3D shapes too and rehearse the use of the phrase "I have noticed that" when sharing our ideas.
- Our Expanding Our Vocabulary (EOV) words for this week are: Spring, frog spawn, artist.
- In PE, the children will be pretending to be caterpillars using their feet to dribble balls and they will eventually become butterflies.
- The children will learn about an artist this week, Joan Miro, a Spanish artist who created magical artwork through combining real life with make believe.

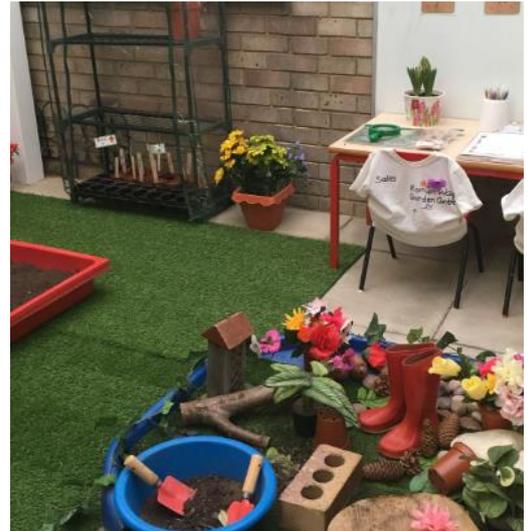


- We will finish the week with a spring walk for Forest Friday, taking in all of the signs that spring has sprung.

Call for gardening resources

We are learning about 'growing and life cycles' as our topic. This will mean lots of gardening and planting which we are loving. We are still in the process of turning our outdoor classroom (the polytunnel) into a garden centre and would still welcome donations of the following to help us please:

- Compost
- Small plant pots
- Bean seeds
- Sunflower seeds
- Seeds for vegetables
- Seeds for flowers
- Wild flower seeds



Time to talk

- We all know how important talking at home is for exposing children to a wide range of vocabulary and ideas. This all helps them with their reading and to become future writers. An idea this week is for you to talk about magical creatures you might create by combining features of your favourite animals or birds. You could write a list of your favourite animals/birds and then think about what you would take from each to create a new magical creature.

Model the use of the word 'because' as you do this. For example "I would take the face of a puppy and put it on the body of a fox because it would look a lot more friendly."

What are your favourite animals or birds? What parts of the bodies would you take from each of them to create a new magical creature?

Handwriting with Letter-join

- You will have all received the letter from school sharing our Handwriting focus and log in details for Letter-join. Reception parents are given the opportunity to access the free play option that is shown below when you log on. The children can practise developing their fine motor skills, drawing patterns and easier and harder letters.



Letter-join Home log-in

Our school is now part of the Letter-join handwriting scheme and our pupils can log in to the Letter-join website on iPads and tablets as well as desktop and laptop computers at home. There you will find the same, easy-to-use handwriting resources that we use at school.



PC DESKTOP AND LAPTOP LOG-IN

Log in at www.letterjoin.co.uk and use the Desktop log-in option with these details:

User name: **jk4404**
Password: **home**

PC Browsers:

Letter-join will work on the following browsers on PCs/Macs:

- Google Chrome
- Firefox
- Safari

Do not use Internet Explorer.

IPAD AND TABLET LOG-IN

Go to www.letterjoin.co.uk and use the Tablet log-in option with these details:

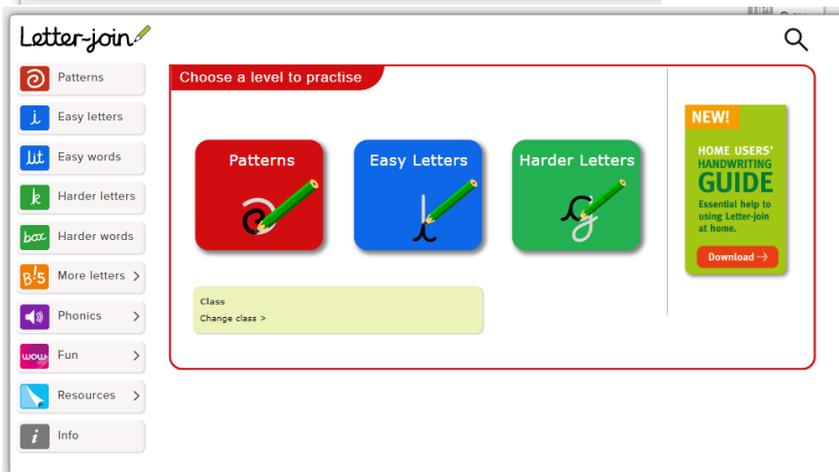
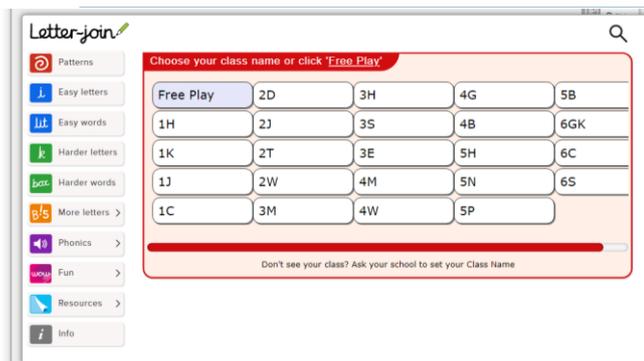
User name: **jk4404**
Swipe code (starting at top left):



Tablet/iPad Browsers:

Letter-join will run on the following tablets:

- iPads running iOS7 and above through the Safari browser.
- Windows 8 tablets (8 inch and bigger) using the built-in browser.
- Android tablets (8 inch and bigger) using Google Chrome, Firefox or Opera.



Some important information and reminders:

- **Urgent call for playdough resources:** The children are always so immersed in their playdough creations as they mould and sculpt all sorts of wonderful creations, but unfortunately, our playdough ingredients have diminished! If you are happy to donate flour, salt, oil and cream of tartar, we would really appreciate it! Thank you to those of you who have already donated but we still need more please.



- **School Reading Book/Borrow a Book:** We are reading with the children each week and are encouraging the children to read everyday. Please remember to return your child's school reading book on their reading day, as well as their 'Borrow a Book' book. It will also be great to read your feedback about your child's progress with their reading at home in the parents comments section of their Reading diary each week.
- **Oxford Reading Buddy:** Please do continue to access Oxford Reading Buddy at home as it is a great way to support your child with their reading. You will find their logins stuck into the front cover of their reading records.
- **Pick Up Location:** The end of the day pick up locations are remaining the same as the end of Autumn 2. The Reception children will be dismissed in front of the climbing frame, with RF closest to the green school gates, followed by RW, then RDC and ending with RY closest to the school. Not to worry if you get a little lost, there is signage to show the location of each class. Once you have collected your child, please exit promptly and in front of the red chairs so that we can keep the line moving.
- **Junk Modelling resources:** Along with messy play, the children love to build all sorts of wonderful things using all sorts of junk they find around the house. If you have any junk modelling resources, we would be more than happy to take these. **Just a quick note to say that we are not taking any food boxes or wrappers.** For junk modelling resources ideas, please see below.
 - toilet roll/kitchen roll tubes
 - shoe boxes
 - glitter
 - pipe cleaners
 - pom poms
 - bottles and bottle lids
 - toothpaste tubes
 - straws
 - fabric
 - googly eyes
 - CDs

Cooking at home



These frog open sandwiches could be fun to make and eat. You could spread guacamole on the bread and then create your frog face out of cucumber, tomatoes, green peppers and olives. Followed by insect dessert.

