



Reception Weekly Newsletter – Monday 25th April 2022

Hello Reception Parents and Carers! It has been so amazing to see the children return to school after Easter so confidently and happily. It is brilliant to see many children have been reading and practising their writing over the holiday. This week the children have had a great time beginning to think more about the world around us. We have learned about how different people live in different parts of the world. The children have loved the travel agents role play area and as more of them begin to venture further afield on holidays or day trips, they are able to draw more on their own experiences in their role play. Maths has offered the chance to revisit teen numbers, shape and using number sentences to solve word problems. The children continue to work hard on their number formation, checking they have written them the right way round. The beans in the garden are still attracting a lot of interest and care from the children and they are eagerly awaiting some blooms from the flower seeds we have planted. The children loved the special 'Jungle' drama workshop this week, we were very proud of the way they participated and were so imaginative. We have started the reading routine again of sending home both a reading book and a borrowed book.

We are sending a survey out to parents this week by google form which will ask you about your use of technology at home and how much access children have to different types of technology at home. This informs our understanding of the children's awareness and use of technology. We would greatly appreciate your support with this.

Now that the weather is improving the children do not need to bring in wellies for Forest Friday and so we will continue to ensure all wellies are sent home to you.

Now for the fun we have planned for next week as we continue our topic 'The World Around Us' – 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 Monday 25th April 2022

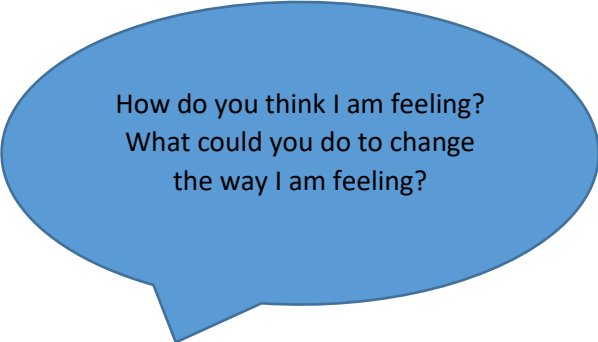
- The focus stories for this week are Oliver Jeffers' book – 'Here We Are' which continues to explore the world around us including the solar system and the story 'Ramadan Moon'. 'Ramadan Moon' shares how the sighting of the moon is important to Muslims. We invite you to add photos to Tapestry of Ramadan celebrations that the children have enjoyed, for us to share with our classes.
- 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. We will also be adding 3 new digraphs (2 letter sounds) **sh/ch/th**. The children will build these new sounds into simple words and will then have a go at writing the words down. The children will continue to practise writing simple sentences of up to 8 words now. Our everyday words are: some, come, was. We practise reading and writing these words. We are also continuing to use 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 **b, d, g, h, i, j, n**. 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 are learning to recognise, identify and represent numbers 15 to 20; with a focus at the end of the week on number formation.
- Our activities in PE are linked to 'Windy weather' where we will pretend to fly a kite and continue to work on our ball skills.
- On Forest Friday, each class will crate a soundscape of a different habitat. They will think about sounds they might hear at the seaside or in the arctic and see if they can create them using natural objects, their bodies or instruments.



- Our Expanding Our Vocabulary (EOV) words for this week are: Ramadan, feelings, planets.

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 feelings; maybe pull some faces and use different expressions and ask your child to tell you how they think you are feeling and what they could do to change your expression eg from sad to happy; worried to relaxed.



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:

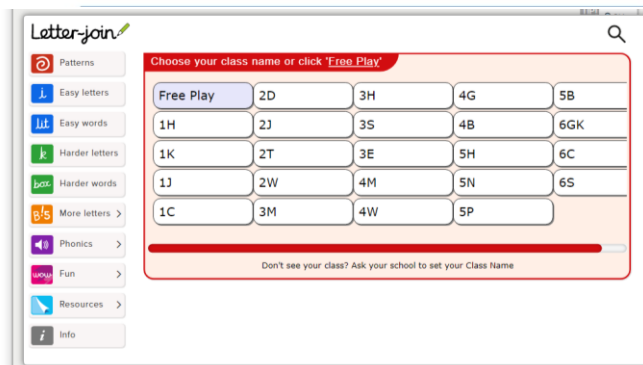
User name: **jk4404**
Swipe code (starting at top left):

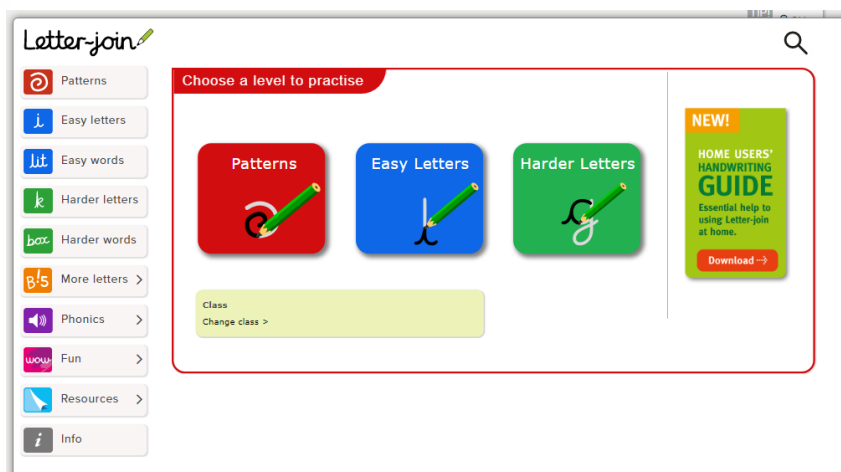


Tablet/iPad Browsers:

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. We will not be sending home reading books over the holiday but please do use Oxford Reading Buddy. The children will also have the opportunity to choose a book to borrow – which is one you can share together.
- **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. 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.
- **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

As our new topic is 'The World Around Us' our role play areas will be transformed into a Travel Agents.



We would still really appreciate donations of anything travel related please which might include:

- Old Aeroplane tickets
- Holiday brochures
- Old travel books
- Old sunhats
- Old sunglasses
- Flags of the world
- Posters from different countries

Cooking at home

How about creating rice crispy cakes in the shapes of a crescent moon and stars. We thought there might be some spare chocolate after Easter that could be melted.



Rice Crispy Treats

(makes around 12)

10 oz regular sized marshmallows



5 cups rice crispy cereal
3 tablespoons butter
approx. 1/2 cup melting chocolate wafers
sprinkles

Melt the butter in a large nonstick pot on low heat. You don't want any browning, so keep stirring. Once melted, add the marshmallows to the pot and stir continuously until fully melted. You don't want it to get stuck to the pot or turn brown.

When the marshmallows are melted and creamy, remove the pot from the heat and stir in the cereal. Keep stirring with a silicon spatula until full combined.

Transfer the mixture onto a greased 9"x13" pan and use a piece of parchment paper to press down and flatten the mixture evenly. I found that cutting the treats with cookie cutters was easiest when the mixture was still warm, but regardless cutting these treats will be a little difficult. To make square shapes, use a pizza cutter to cut it easily once the mixture is cooled.