

# Reception News

## Spring Term

January  
2024

Dear Parents and carers,

The children returned to school after the Christmas break full of enthusiasm and eager to learn more about our new topic of 'Our World'. This will be followed by the topic of 'Superheroes' after February half term.

**Communication, Language and Literacy:** We will be reading a wide range of books, exploring characters and settings. The children will be encouraged to act out stories, draw pictures and produce writing based on themes from the texts. We will be reading a variety of rich and engaging texts to bring the topic alive, such as 'Side by Side', 'Handa's Surprise' and various non-fiction texts. This will provide the children with a wide range of meaningful writing opportunities.

The children will continue their phonics learning. As children progress through the phases, new sounds will be added to their 'phonics book' for them to practise using at home. Please try to read with your child every day so they can incorporate their phonic knowledge in their reading and continue to develop their enjoyment of books.

**Maths:** The children will continue to learn through both formal teaching of concepts and their exploration of the classroom provision. They will enjoy a range of stimulating practical activities that will develop their skills in counting, calculations and shape, space and measure. We will be developing children's skills in recording and explaining the processes they go through when undertaking mathematical calculations, problems and puzzles.

**Understanding the World:** As part of understanding our community, we will be inviting parents and carers in to talk to the children about their jobs as part of our 'People who help us' topic. We will also be finding out more about festivals such as Chinese New Year and Easter, as they provide great opportunities for children to gain an understanding of different families, cultures and traditions.

**P.E:** Children's physical development will progress through a mixture of discrete PE sessions and an enabling learning environment. Children will have a range of activities on offer which develop their fine and gross motor skills. P.E. kits need to be brought into school on Monday and returned home on Friday. P.E. takes place both in and outside of the building, so please ensure your child has tracksuit bottoms or leggings.

**Weekly Challenge:** Your child has a log in for Google Classroom. Weekly Challenges will continue to be set on this. This is an enjoyable way of sharing learning experiences. To support your child with their learning we will be setting a weekly challenge for you to share at home. You can record your learning through photographs, drawings and annotations. Challenges will be set on a **Thursday**. Your child will also receive a



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decodable Phonics book, we request that these be kept in your child's book bag so that we can change them weekly.

**General Information:** We are always grateful for any recyclable materials; please ensure food packaging (e.g. cereal boxes) did not contain nuts as we have children at school with severe nut allergies. This term we would particularly appreciate fur fabric pieces, wool, buttons, beads, lids, cotton wool, string, wood shavings etc. to support the idea of texture. If you have any spare time and would like to volunteer to help in the classroom, please see the teacher. We are always looking for people to listen to readers, help with artwork and general maintenance of resources around the classroom.

**School Trips:** We continue to be committed to offering a variety of school trips to enrich the curriculum we offer children here at Deansfield. As well as increasing children's self-esteem and confidence, trips are hugely successful when they are part of our long-term curriculum planning and have clear links to the classroom. As you know, we introduced a 'pay as you go' method in September. Further information is available on our internet: [School-Trips-parents-letter-200623](#). Your prompt payment via Bromcom is very much appreciated.

We appreciate your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's school experience.

Kind regards

**Miss Kawa and Mrs Turner – Reception Class teachers**