

# South End Infant School Reception Newsletter November 2025

Last term was a busy one! The forthcoming term will be too, but it will be packed full of exciting and engaging learning opportunities. Our learning platform, **Tapestry**, is up and running and we will continue to share weekly snippets of learning with you. As always, you are also very welcome to add observations of your own. Look out for 'Tapestry Challenges,' and 'Tips for learning.'

### What will the children be learning about?

We will be continuing to find out more about ourselves by considering the things that make us all special. We will also be learning about different family units, where we live and the celebrations that take place at this time of year. We will be finding out about different types of toys, and through practical activities and discussions, learning about how they have changed over time. Forest School Sessions and getting outside as much as we can will also help us to discover more about Autumn and Winter.

**This term, our themes are 'Toys Now and Then' and 'Christmas is Coming'**

This term, we will continue to focus on supporting your children to become confident learners, who will approach new activities with a positive, 'Can do!' attitude. On Parent's Evening, we shared a document outlining the skills and knowledge your children need to be ready for Year One. In order to achieve these, the children will need to develop the positive attitudes and learning behaviours outlined below. The journey has already started at school, but you can further **help your child** by...

## Foundation Stage

*I am in Reception at SEIS and.*

*I am polite.*

*Things intrigue me.*

*I love to be immersed in new experiences.*

*I am kind and caring.*

*I can talk about my feelings.*

*I like to be busy.*

*I love to learn.*

*I am creative.*

*I have aspirations.*

*I know that if I try my best it will always be good enough.*

**Golden Thread**  
Engage, Exploration, Enquire. I am Unique.

*I am well balanced and happy in my life.*

*I am interested in things.*

***I am ready to continue my South End journey!***

- Encouraging them to see a task through to the end.
- Trying something new.
- Saying, "I will try!" instead of 'I can't!'
- Talking about what they are doing, what they want to do and trying to solving things together.
- Strongly encouraging your child to take responsibility for their own things.

I am willing to learn about other people, their cultures and beliefs.

I am respectful towards others, the learning environment and beyond.

I am not afraid to take risks because I am brave!

I persevere and believe that I can do anything in time.

I am resilient and can challenge myself to try new things, take the next steps!

I am a confident communicator.

I am independent.

### Being Mindful

At South End Infant School, we always stress the importance of taking time to *be still* and *reflect*: to be *mindful*. Therefore, we use *positive affirmations* to help your children to further develop their lifelong learning skills and attitudes.



## Literacy: Writing



The children will need to hold their pencils in a tripod grip and begin to recall letters from memory. Your child will be encouraged to write labels and some words from memory. Your children now know that letters are used when writing and will be listening for the sounds that they can hear in words. The adults in school will be modelling how to write simple sentences and teaching strategies so that your child can hear the sounds/spellings needed to write words. We will also keep reminding the children to only use capitals when they are needed: at the start of a sentence or for proper nouns and pronouns.

### Support your child by:

- ☺ Providing the motivation to write things like -  
Shopping lists,  
Cards, postcards, letters, emails  
Envelopes,  
Invitations,  
Scoring games e.g. tallies,  
Calendars/diaries  
Labels
- ☺ Modelling writing.
- ☺ Sounding out words together and writing the sounds that can be heard.
- ☺ Writing simple CVC words like cat, hat, bat, whilst encouraging your child to hear each sound in turn.
- ☺ Continue forming letters correctly and holding a pencil in a tripod grip.
- ☺ Helping them to learn to write simple words like 'I', 'the', 'was', 'for', 'are'.

### Care, Respect and Independence

Our PSE lessons this term will strongly emphasise the importance of treating resources carefully and responsibly. This will involve simple, but important, tasks such as putting lids on pens, picking things up from the floor, treating books with care and sharing resources as part of a group. We will also be focussing on promoting your children's' independence and encouraging your children to take more responsibility for their personal care when organising belongings and dressing/undressing.

You can further help at home by...

- ☺ Playing board games (as a family) to support with turn taking and how to win and lose appropriately.
- ☺ Teaching your child to take off their own jumpers and turn them the right way round.
- ☺ Teaching your child to put on their own coat, pulling out sleeves, and doing up buttons or zips.

## Literacy: Reading and Phonics

We are continuing to learn to recognise all 26 letters of the alphabet and know the sound and spelling for each of these. We will also learn some double consonants such as ff, ll, ss, zz. The children have started to listen to the sounds in words and write these down, with the grown-ups saying 'Say the sounds to write the words'. Parents will soon be invited to a Phonic Session, and **we strongly recommend that you attend, as doing so will enable you to help your child learn in the same way that they do in school**

Further details of this session are coming soon!

### Support your child by:

#### Out and about

##### Shopping:

- Look for letters on logos e.g. Tesco McDonalds
- Look for familiar brands and packets
- Try alliteration. Look for 'bendy bananas, crunchy cucumbers, green grapes
- How many things can you find that start with the same letter?



##### In the street:

- Play I spy
- Look for letter on signs and car number plates
- Listen for sounds in the environment

##### At the park or in the woods:

- Make letters out of objects you find
- Encourage your child to blend sounds—Ca you h-o-p? j-u-m-p?
- How many things can you find that start with...?



- ☺ Hearing them read daily.
- ☺ Reading together when you are out and about, focussing on the many labels, signs and menus you will see.

We will continue to listen to a wide range of stories and talk about these, as well as learning new nursery rhymes.

In our **Talk for Writing** sessions, we will be learning words that help us to recount an event and the children will be recounting an outing to discover a lost Teddy Bear. At home, you can encourage your child to use words that sequence the events that have happened to them and talking with your child about their day. Ensuring that you model *talking in full sentences* will really help with their

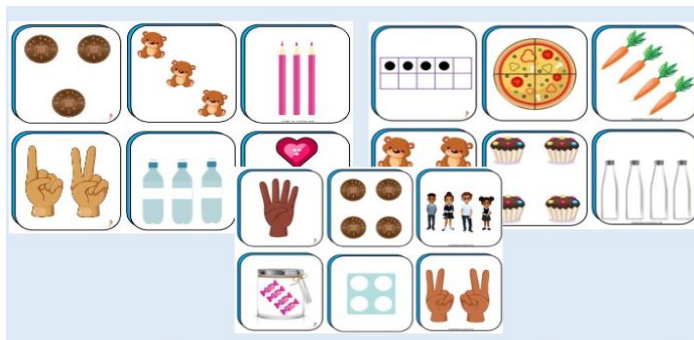


## Maths

The children will begin to fully understand numbers up to 5, including the composition of each number. They will be encouraged to look at small collections of objects and subitise (i.e. saying a number without having to count). Through stories and songs, the children will start to solve simple problems and add and subtract. The adults will continue to encourage the children to explain their thinking and record it in the form of simple mathematical jottings (marks, pictures, numerals and symbols). You can help your child at home by comparing quantities of objects, and using the appropriate terminology (e.g. 'More than', 'Fewer than') and making comparisons between objects based on their size, length, weight and capacity. Counting beyond 10 will be a focus as well as being able to quickly say one more than and less than a given number within 10. Your child will have to visualise a number track for this skill. The children will also be asked to talk about 2D and 3D shapes using informal mathematical language, such as 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat'. These skills will be developed both as part of the children's play and in formal, specific maths lessons. Our new 'Maths At Home' packs and fortnightly challenges commence this term. We hope you enjoy using these with your child, as these aim support mathematical understanding.

### Support your child by:

- ☺ Looking for shapes and numbers in the environment.
- ☺ Subitise quantities when out about or do this when playing dominoes.



We subitise  
with our  
eyes!

### Outside Learning

We will continue to have access to our Outside Areas in all reasonable weathers. Being prepared **for all weathers is still necessary**, so please can you ensure that your child **always** has **appropriate clothing for school**: coats, hats, scarves and gloves (when needed), sensible footwear, a vest under their T-shirt (if it is very cold) etc. We do have wellies and all in ones for those very wet, yet very fun, occasions.



If you would like your  
child's personal  
belongings to be  
returned to you,  
please **name**  
**everything!**

Thank you for your continued support. We are always here if you need us.

