

South End Infant School

Reception Newsletter

June 2026

Your children are developing into inquisitive learners, who know that if they persevere, work hard and believe in themselves, they can achieve almost anything. As we near the end of our time together in Reception, for the last term, we will continue to develop all the skills the children need to make a happy transition into Year 1.

We will be starting two new themes this term: *Minibeast Adventure Quest* and *Moving On*. Firstly, we will be exploring the fascinating world of bugs and then we will be thinking about journeys, including the one your children will be making into their new classes!

Literacy: Growing a Love of Books

This term, we will be learning a story written by Pie Corbett called 'The Sleepy Bumblebee.' We will be learning to tell the story using a story map, and your child should be hopefully be able to tell you this story in its entirety - with actions! We will also be continuing to listen to a wide range of stories and poems. Your child will be encouraged to talk about the structure of the story as well as the characters, settings and events. We will be talking about what we think might happen and saying what we like/dislike about the story. We will also be using non-fiction texts to help us learn new facts about minibeasts and zoo animals.

Phonics

This term, we will continue to focus on reading and writing longer words using our phonic knowledge and securing our sound recall. We will be writing simple sentences, too.

Help at home by...

Writing:

- Making up simple sentences with your child and then ask them to write these sentences, saying the sounds as they write each word.

Reading:

- Use the cards from your 'Super Sounds Pot' to make CCVC and CVCC words (Examples given below) and ask them to **'Say the sounds to read the words!'**
- Say a CVCC or CCVC word for your child to write.
- Show your child 'Alien' or 'Nonsense' words. This will help your child to read exactly what they see and really strengthen their phonic skills. Some of the children are still reading what they think words should be rather than what is actually there.

If you need any word lists, please pop in and see a member of the team.

Have Fun!

CCVC and CVCC Words

Children will progress to reading so-called 'CCVC' and 'CVCC' words. 'C' stands for consonant and 'V' for vowel, so whereas children so far have looked at 'CVC' words such as 'bat', 'dog' and 'pen', they will now learn to sound out and blend longer words such as 'stop' (CCVC), 'clap' (CCVC), 'desk' (CVCC) and 'hand' (CVCC).



Literacy: Writing

Your child will continue to use their existing phonic knowledge, learn new graphemes and spell High Frequency Words so that they can confidently string words together to write simple sentences.

Please continue to help at home by:

- Expecting your child to correctly form letters. For some of our children, this means that they need to **unlearn some unhelpful habits**. Please support them to follow the examples in the Kinetic letter formation sheets.
- Encouraging your child to **write for a purpose**. This could be something like a shopping list, a reminder note, a recount of a special trip or even a special message for someone.
- Encouraging your child to 'have a go' and **say the sounds to write the word for themselves**. Please do not write it for them to copy.
- Supporting your child to construct their own sentences using a picture or object as a starting point.

Tips for helping your child to write a sentence

Your child may miss out words as they forget what they are writing. Rehearsing the sentence *before* they write it really helps them to keep track of what they are writing.

Your child also needs to...

1. Think about what they want to say.
2. Say the sentence aloud at least three times **before** writing it.
3. Count the words in the sentence (on their fingers.)
4. Write each word, making sure they say all of the sounds out loud as they write.' **Say the sounds to write the word.'**
5. Check that they have written all the words in the sentence.
6. Remember to use finger spaces, a capital letter where needed and finish the idea with a full stop!

Remember, writing a sentence is hard work, and needs many different skills. The three boxes below show some other ideas that you may find support sentence writing.

Read, Read, Read!

Reading books together is the most powerful way for children to learn about language, sentences, grammar and punctuation. When you are reading together, read examples of sentences aloud and discuss the punctuation as well as the meaning they convey.

Sentence Scramble

You could try to write a simple sentence by using a picture and word cues.



on red a mat. cat A

Cut the sentence up and see if your child can then put the words back in the correct order.

Say a sentence

Write a selection of words on individual pieces of paper (such as dog, cat, girl, boy, shop) or use pictures. Put the cards face down and shuffle them. Then, ask your child to pick a card and form a sentence using the word within a given timeframe (e.g. ten seconds). Can they tell you what punctuation they would use?

Literacy: Reading

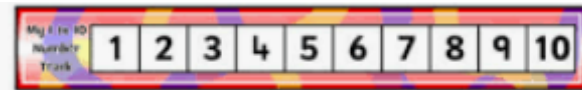
Please continue to read with your child little and often.

As a confident reader, your child must be able to...

- Point to the words independently.
- Remember to read their Tricky Words without sounding them out.
- Try to sound out new words whilst remembering to use their phonic knowledge (recalling the letter sounds and digraphs that they already know).
- Ask for help if there is a word or something that they do not yet understand.
- Read with increasing fluency (reading the same book many times really helps with this).
- Read for pleasure (reading books of their own choice alongside school reading books).

Tricky Words - These help your child to read fluently.

Many of the children are still finding learning Tricky Words a challenge. Please continue to complete the challenges with your child and revisit them often. We have recently sent you a sheet containing all of the Tricky Words for Reception. Learning these will really help you child in Year One. If you need additional support with this, please ask your class teacher - we are always here to help.



Maths

We have been doing really well in our Maths sessions. This term, we will continue to develop our skills in spatial reasoning. Your child will consolidate their counting skills, counting to larger numbers and developing a wider range of counting strategies. They will secure knowledge of number facts and use new mathematical equipment such as a rekenrek (see opposite). Please complete the 'Maths at Home' activities in your child's pack as this will support what we are learning in class



...be able to independently recall number bonds to 5 and 10 (pairs of numbers with a specific total).

We still need to...

...correctly form the numerals 0-9.

...be able to count on, and back from, any number within 20.



Thank you so much for your continued support!

