

Spring 2024
Term 3 / Term 4

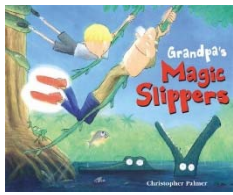


Dear Parents,

Welcome back to 2024. We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas/Winter break and we wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year! Firstly, we'd like to thank you for your support during the previous 2 terms. Cherry and Apple Classes have settled so beautifully into school life. Their overall passion for learning is incredible and they are now building such lovely, respectful relationships with both their peers and teachers.

What will we be learning this Spring term? Term 3 Jazzy Journeys Term 4 Let's tell a tale

We have an exciting Term 3 planned that will start with the story, "Grandpa's Magic Slippers," where the children will use his magical slippers to 'travel' to exciting places around the world. We will then use another book a week to learn about other places around the world. As these stories support us in finding out about different environments and recognising similarities and differences, we encourage you to learn together at home by looking at different story settings or by talking about different places that you have visited or might see on the T.V, in magazines or in non-fiction books. As part of this we will hopefully travel to the local shops in small groups to buy ingredients for our snack so we may request a small donation for ingredients.



During Term 4 we will then look at some more traditional tales and explore the structure of stories with the children. A big focus will be on their ability to retell stories accurately taking notes of settings, characters and structure.



P.E

This term the children will have PE on a Thursday which will be indoors so please ensure they have suitable kit in school on the day. We encourage PE kits to stay in children's lockers so that they are readily available.

Work at home

It is really important that you hear your child read daily and that you read to your child daily too. This will help to develop a love of reading as well as immerse them in a rich vocabulary. The majority of you are engaging really well with the 'Go Read' app and you are now reading daily at home with your children and we thank you. This is essential if they are to utilise their new-found phonics skills as we move into Phase 3. Please continue to talk about the characters and settings, make predictions as to what you think might happen next and discuss how the characters are feeling and why they might be feeling that way. **Please record in your child's Go Reading log** the stories that you have shared as the children are able to earn rewards in the form of bonus gems.

Your child will also read daily at school in phonics lessons and in many other contexts. Their book will be changed once a week - the day that your child will read and have their book changed has not changed so please ensure the book is in school on that day. We have sent home common exception words on sheets containing some tricky words which they need to be able to read and eventually spell. Why not encourage your child to try writing with chalk or stones or even writing them in sand or shaving foam? You could write them on post-it notes which could be placed on the stairs, so that they can read them each time they go up to bed. For more information on 'tricky words/high frequency words please check posts on Class Dojo.

Phase 3 Phonics: During this term we will move onto Phase 3 phonemes which they need to know, including digraphs (2 letters /1 sound) and trigraphs. (3 letters one sound)

j	v	w	x	y	z, zz	qu	ch	sh	th, th	ng	ai	ee	igh	oa
oo (short 'u' as in book), oo (long 'ooh' as in cool)	ar	or	ur	ow	oi	ear	air	ure	er					

Please keep going over Phase 2 sounds:

s	a	t	p	i	n	m	d	g	o	c	k	ck	e	u
r	h	b	f, ff	l, ll	ss									

Please try to encourage your children to segment and blend their words;

segment words: say "...cat, can you tell me each of the phonemes/ sounds you hear?" ...they break it down/segment and say "c-a-t"

blending words say " l-o-g now you blend " ... they say "...l-o-g. then they repeat it several times more quickly until they say "log".

Dojo celebrations

We would love to hear about your child's successes outside of school no matter how large or small - our wonderful children often make us say and make us feel incredibly proud when they achieve something new, so why not share that with us. You can do this by uploading a photo onto Dojo or the ILD and by writing a little message to go with it. We can talk about this with your child and they can share it with the class if they wish when using Dojo. Some examples may include: learning to put on their jumper independently, riding a bike without stabilisers, being brave at the doctors, swimming without armbands, trying new foods, sharing their toys with their brother/sister etc. It can be anything big or small that makes you feel proud.

We really love to hear from you, so if you have any questions, please feel free to send a note in with your child or e-mail the school office; we can then organise a phone call if necessary. We look forward to sharing another fantastic term with you supporting our children to aspire, achieve and grow.

Many thanks,

Mrs Prophet, Mrs Wright, Mr Cowell and all of the Early Years Team