



Welcome to the Summer Term in Reception. We are looking forward to an exciting and busy time. Our 'Topsy Turvy Travelling Machine' theme will take the children on a magical journey right back to when dinosaurs roamed the Earth in the first half term. In the second half, we will be blasting off to space on an exciting, astronomic adventure!



Topsy Turvy Travelling Machine



In **English**, we will continue to develop independence when writing simple sentences, using our phonic and tricky word knowledge to spell. In the first half term, we will be using different books such as 'Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs' and 'Tyrannosaurus Drip' to inspire us to write. The focus of teaching will be writing simple sentences that they can read back themselves. Key tricky words should be spelt correctly, for example, 'The dighnosor is big and strong.' Writing opportunities will include labelling dinosaurs, describing them and creating a missing dinosaur poster.

Have you ever heard of an alien being a pen pal? Well, in the second half term we will be communicating with an alien and writing questions to ask them about life on their planet.

In **reading**, the children will continue to practise their segmenting and blending skills when tackling unfamiliar and longer words. For example: 'f-igh-t-i-ng' would blend into 'fighting'.

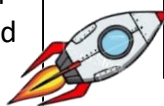
There will be a focus on developing fluency and answering questions to demonstrate their understanding of what they have read.

We will consolidate **maths** skills such as accurate counting and numeral recognition to 20 through problem solving. For example: "There were 6 aliens in the rocket and 2 got off. How many are left? Can you use objects to show me? Can you write the numeral and the number sentence?" Or "There were 6 dinosaur eggs in the nest. They doubled. How many are there now?"

We will be learning about 2D shapes including circles, squares, triangles and rectangles and we will be starting to use specific vocabulary to describe them such as sides and corners. We will estimate how many shoes can fit inside a tyrannosaurus footprint and use nonstandard measures such as foam building bricks to measure 'moon jumps'.



We will develop **communication and language** skills through playing games and encouraging conversations with others, making sure they demonstrate appropriate conventions. For example, turn-taking, waiting until someone else has finished, listening to others and using expressions such as "please", "thank you" and "can I...?". We will teach the children to make predictions and explain their learning by answering questions such as: "Why did the boat tip over?"

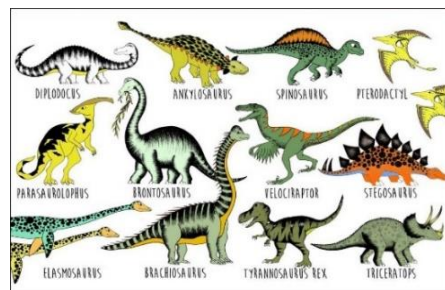


As part of **understanding of the world**, we will be finding out about different types of dinosaurs, learning their names, their distinctive features and using vocabulary such as herbivore and carnivore. We will be finding out about what it is like to live and work in space. We will even try some real astronaut food! We will encourage the children to make observations of animals and plants, explain why some things occur, and talk about changes that they see. For example, growing plants, and changes that may be reversed, e.g. melting ice.

In **Physical development** we will start off with a dinosaur themed dance. We will be exploring how astronauts move in space and how they stay healthy. We will promote health awareness by talking about exercise, its effect on the body and the positive contribution it can make towards a healthy lifestyle.



As part of **personal, social and emotional development**, the children will be provided with activities that require them to give and take, making sure it is fair. They will have opportunities to work as part of a team and take turns, whilst being encouraged to listen to the ideas of others. During weekly Circle Time sessions, we will be helping the children to explore feelings, e.g. recalling when they were happy, when they were excited, or when they felt lonely.



As part of **expressive arts and design** the children will use their imaginations in the exciting indoor and outdoor role play areas, which include a 'Travelling Machine' and a 'Jurassic Discovery Centre'. The children will have the chance to experience working with plaster to create fossils. When designing and making, the children will have access to a range of resources for mixing colours, joining things together and combining materials. For example, they will use recyclable materials to make model space rockets and communication devices to speak to aliens!



Dates for your diary
 7th May-Not only the Sponsored Walk!
 17th May Dinosaur Day
 18th May RH Road safety
 19th May RS Road safety
 10 th June am Sports Day

Books to share:

Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs
 Dinosaur Roar!
 Stomp Dinosaur Stomp
 How do Dinosaurs...
 Tyrannosaurus Drip
 Man on the Moon
 The Way Back Home
 Bob's Best Friend



How can you help?

- Continue to hear your child read regularly, encouraging them to talk about what they have read.
- Practise letter and number formation (making sure they start in the correct place)
- Practise writing independently, with a focus on making sure they can read what they have written to you.

Reminders

- Don't forget that learning doesn't just happen at school, we also want to see what you're up to at home, so please upload onto Tapestry.
- We are available and happy to talk to you if you have a question or query no matter how small. Ask the adult on the door in the morning or put a message on Tapestry.
- Books are changed every Monday so please send in reading folders.
- Please send your child into school in their PE kit on Tuesdays. **PE kit will not be needed on Thursdays this term due to swimming.**