



Commonswood Nursery
and Primary School

Spring Term in
Reception

05.02.26: Safe Travel Webinar Workshop

10.02.26: Learning Review Meeting

12.02.26: Learning Review Meeting

16.02.26 - 20.02.26: Half Term

05.03.26: World Book Day – Wear what you like
or dress up as a character from a book

27.03.26: School closes for Easter at 12:30

E-Safety Theme:

January - Self Image and Identity

February - Managing Online Information

March - Privacy and Security

Emotions of the term: Happiness and Sadness

Literacy: Reading

Our first Talk for Writing text begins with a mystery package delivered to school. The children become investigators and work together to work out who might have sent it, using clues and careful discussion. This leads into our focus text, *How to Catch a Star* by Oliver Jeffers.

Our second Talk for Writing text is *Jim and the Beanstalk* by Raymond Briggs. The children may be left letters and items to discover by a big character from the story.

For both stories, the children retell the story using story language and then make up their own versions of the story.



Literacy: Writing

We write words containing our new vowel digraphs and trigraphs.

We learn to write longer captions or phrases containing multiple words with finger spaces in between.

We introduce writing sentences and learning to apply key features of a sentence such as, capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.



Phonics

We learn vowel digraphs (two letters that make one sound) and trigraphs (three letters that make one sound) this term. These are: **ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, oo, ar, or, er, ur, ow, oi, ear, air.**

We also be learn new tricky words: **are, we, you, was, they, my, by, all, sure, pure.**

We introduce words with two digraphs such as 'shark' and words ending with 'ing' such as 'chatting'.



Physical Development

Fine motor skills– We continue our daily busy fingers to build the strength in our hands and finger muscles. This will help our pencil grips as we form letters. We are focusing on letter formations and ensuring each letter is formed correctly.

Gross motor skills– We learn to move our bodies to a beat of eight through our dance PE lessons. We also practice our balancing skills, stopping safely and exploring different movements we can make with our bodies.



Expressive Arts

We learn about the artist Eliyakota Samualie and explore her animal artwork, particularly focusing on owls. This will inspire our own owl artwork in different mediums.



Mathematics: Number

We continue to develop subitising skills and connect quantities to numerals within and beyond 5. The children explore how numbers are composed, including identifying missing parts and understanding numbers such as 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit'.

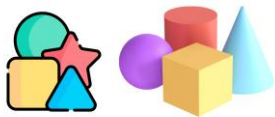
They compare groups, identifying more, less, and equal groups, and begin to connect equal groups to doubles.



Mathematics: Shape, Measure and Space

We explore 2D shapes, learning that they are always flat. The children use mathematical language to name and describe shapes, for example: "A triangle has 3 corners and 3 sides."

We also introduce 3D shapes and compare them to 2D shapes. Children learn that 3D shapes are solid, not flat. For example, a ball is not a flat circle but a sphere.



Communication and Language

We learn new vocabulary from our Talk for Writing texts. We encourage children to use these through our imaginative play and storytelling.

We continue to use our good listening ears during carpet and group times.



Personal Social and Emotional Development

We explore our dreams and goals. We discuss things we find tricky and challenging and ways to overcome them.

We learn about how to keep ourselves healthy. We can do this through a balanced diet, exercise, sleep, and express our emotions.



Wanderlust

We observe how the seasons change from winter to spring, identifying signs of these seasons. We pay particular attention to how the trees change over the coming months.



Understanding the World

Linked to our Talk for Writing texts, the children will be learning about space, including planets, stars and constellations. Through stories, discussions, and practical activities, the children will explore the night sky and develop their curiosity about the world beyond Earth.



Reminders:

- New reading books are handed out on Wednesdays. Please ensure your child has both their reading book and contact book in their bookbag on this day.
- We kindly remind parents and carers that there is an expectation to regularly write in their child's contact book to support communication and reading progress.
- Children must bring a water bottle to school every day. Please ensure bottles contain only water.
- Thank you for consistently uploading homework on time. This helps children consolidate their learning and boosts their confidence when sharing their work with the class.

Further information about the curriculum can be found on the school website.