

## Parkdale School

A Transform Trust Academy

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

### Curriculum Plans for Spring Term: Learning to Love the World

This term the theme for Reception is "Learning to Love the World". In Spring term, our whole school explores sustainability, the impact we have on the world, and investigates the opportunities that we, as a community, have to protect and care for the world around us. In Reception we begin this journey by exploring the world around us, enjoying the wonders of nature and developing our sense of curiosity and passion for animals and plants. We will be taking a trip to Belton House on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. We will be sharing our learning with you during a Good Work Assembly on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February. In the second half term we will find out about extinction (yes it's dinosaur time) and endangered animals. We will be undertaking a project to make habitats for endangered animals and supporting reusing and recycling by taking a walk, and making donations, to a local charity shop.

We like to enhance this learning with fun animal facts, and welcome children sharing their own, documentaries (available online via Netflix, youtube or BBC Iplayer) and Nat Geo Kids clips. If you are able to support your child to access these at home, we hope that you will enjoy sharing their learning with them. We have found a special book called "It's Up to Us: A Children's Terra Carta" that we will be using all half term. If you are looking for a book to share, you might want to look for this lovely illustrated book.

### Reading and Homework

The most important thing that you can do to support your child with their progress in Reception is to hear them read and to share books with them. Children who read their reading book approximately four times a week develop their confidence, fluency and are able to become more independent in their learning. Listening to a bedtime story is so important to keep a love of books and reading. We appreciate this feels time consuming but just reading two pages a day, daily, is more effective than trying to read their whole reading book once a week. We ask you to sign their diary to say that you have seen them read or read to them, you may also wish to make a comment about their progress.

Our second 'homework' request is that you start to use the Drawing Challenge books we have sent home and share them with us on Tapestry. We are so impressed with the progress in



their fine motor skills through our skills time and these drawing jobs will help to continue the development of these skills enormously.

We also continue to offer a variety of online learning platforms that you may want to explore with your child. These are not compulsory in Reception, but can help you understand what your child is learning and how they are doing.

The online options include

**Phonics Bug** : Access reading books and phonics games online

[www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk)

user name : the first 3 letters in your child's first name and surname

Password: phonics

(all lowercase)

Coming soon

**Purple Mash** : a platform to develop ICT skills

Don't forget to keep yourselves up to date with the latest news from Reception on the school website.

As always we thank you for your support, kindness and interactions on Tapestry.

Yours

Mrs Hayley Rippon

Mrs Ruth Ward



**Nottinghamshire County Council**  
Education