

RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

Spring 1 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, we hope you all enjoyed a restful holiday and that Santa was good to one and all!
Many thanks for all the gifts and well wishes – it was all greatly appreciated.

We are pleased to let you know that Mrs Carder had a baby girl – Mollie – and both are doing well.
Miss Jackson and Ms O'Connor are sharing the teaching of R2 and Ms O'Connor will also be working in R1 on Wednesdays.

General Information

- Uniform: - All children should have a full P.E. in school at all times. This includes a school tracksuit, polo shirt, navy blue shorts and plimsolls or trainers.
- Hair: - Girls should have their hair tied back at all times. Please note that hair accessories are only permitted in navy, white or black.
- Jewellery: reminder that girls' earrings must be small gold studs only, no other jewellery is permitted.
- Punctuality:- All children are expected to be ready to line up in the playground at 9:05am and should be in class for registration at 9.15am at the latest. It is very important for children to be in school on time so that learning time is maximised, and also so that children are not unsettled by arriving late and missing lesson time. We appreciate your cooperation in this.

Curriculum

Phonics and Reading – Read Write Inc.

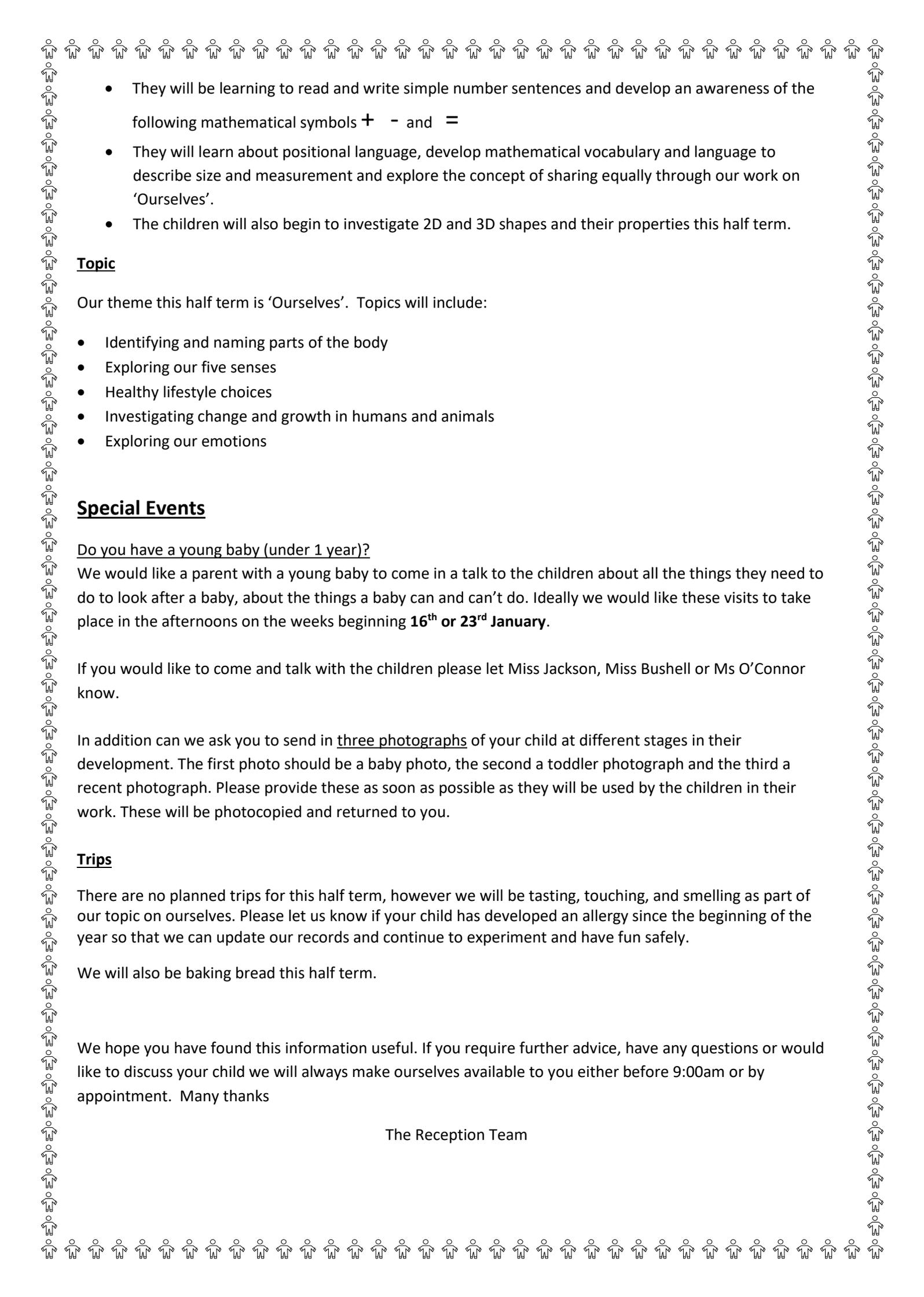
As a school we are introducing the literacy programme Read Write Inc. to teach phonics, reading and to inspire the children's writing. As we transition to this programme there will be some changes to both the books and the words the children take home to learn, to ensure that they are in line with the phonics and reading the children experience as part of Read Write Inc. in school. New words and home reading books will be given to the children in due course. In the meantime, we ask that you continue to share books with your child at home, using facilities such as our school library or your local library as needed.

Read Write Inc. resources which can be used at home are available to buy in bookshops and online should you wish to use these to support your child's learning.

We will keep you updated with the implementation of our exciting new literacy programme through our newsletters and additional letters home as needed, and if you have any queries please speak to a member of the team.

Mathematics

- The children are learning to order, recognise and write numbers up to 20 and beyond if that is appropriate.
- They are learning to count forwards and backwards.

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- They will be learning to read and write simple number sentences and develop an awareness of the following mathematical symbols $+$ $-$ and $=$
 - They will learn about positional language, develop mathematical vocabulary and language to describe size and measurement and explore the concept of sharing equally through our work on 'Ourselves'.
 - The children will also begin to investigate 2D and 3D shapes and their properties this half term.

Topic

Our theme this half term is 'Ourselves'. Topics will include:

- Identifying and naming parts of the body
- Exploring our five senses
- Healthy lifestyle choices
- Investigating change and growth in humans and animals
- Exploring our emotions

Special Events

Do you have a young baby (under 1 year)?

We would like a parent with a young baby to come in a talk to the children about all the things they need to do to look after a baby, about the things a baby can and can't do. Ideally we would like these visits to take place in the afternoons on the weeks beginning **16th or 23rd January**.

If you would like to come and talk with the children please let Miss Jackson, Miss Bushell or Ms O'Connor know.

In addition can we ask you to send in three photographs of your child at different stages in their development. The first photo should be a baby photo, the second a toddler photograph and the third a recent photograph. Please provide these as soon as possible as they will be used by the children in their work. These will be photocopied and returned to you.

Trips

There are no planned trips for this half term, however we will be tasting, touching, and smelling as part of our topic on ourselves. Please let us know if your child has developed an allergy since the beginning of the year so that we can update our records and continue to experiment and have fun safely.

We will also be baking bread this half term.

We hope you have found this information useful. If you require further advice, have any questions or would like to discuss your child we will always make ourselves available to you either before 9:00am or by appointment. Many thanks

The Reception Team