

# RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

## Spring 2 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the half-term break! We hope you had an enjoyable and restful time and are looking forward to an exciting half-term full of great learning opportunities.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

- Pancake Day : Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March
- World Book Day: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March
- Parents Evening: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March

### **General Information**

#### **Uniform:**

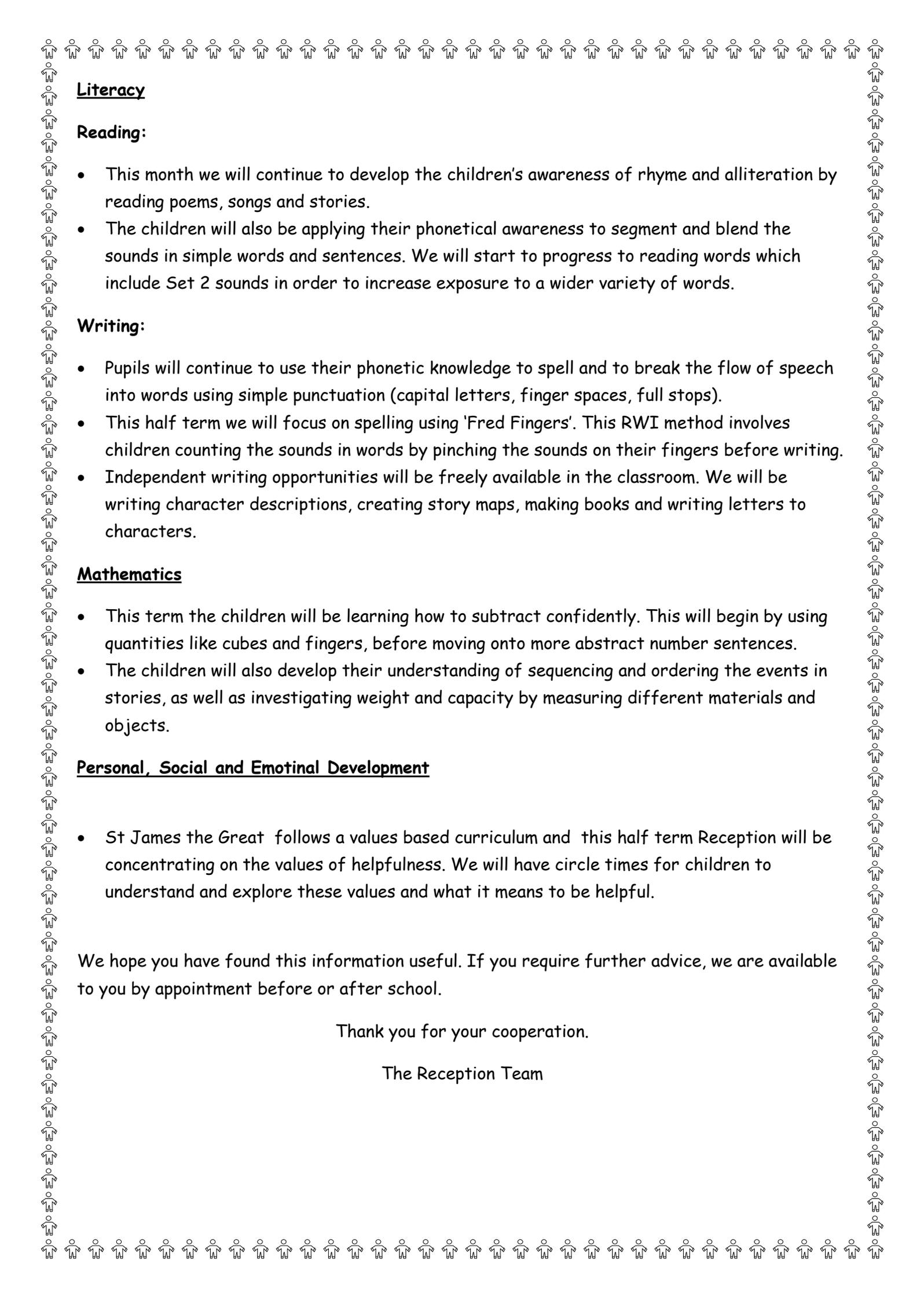
- Children must dress in winter uniform. Please check the weather in advance to ensure they are dressed suitably for the conditions.
- All children should have a full P.E. in school at all times. This includes a school tracksuit, polo shirt, navy blue shorts and blue, black or white (named) plimsolls or trainers. Please practise dressing and undressing with your child as much as possible, this ensures that the children can enjoy their P.E time each week.
- 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.

#### **Illness:**

If your child suffers from sickness or diarrhoea, please remember to keep them off from school for **24 hours** in order to contain any viruses.

#### **Topic - Traditional Tales:**

Our main topic this half term will be Traditional Tales. We will be reading different fairy tales and creating our own. Please read traditional stories at home and point out the 'story language' of 'Once Upon A Time...', 'one day', 'so', 'next' and 'finally'. By reading and understanding the patterns of well-known stories we hope children will internalise the narrative structures and include them in their own writing. We will be making our own story maps, painting scenes, counting characters and partaking in role-play. As part of this topic we will be reading 'The Three Little Pigs', 'The Little Red Hen' and 'No Dinner!' a folk tale from the Indian subcontinent.



## Literacy

### **Reading:**

- This month we will continue to develop the children's awareness of rhyme and alliteration by reading poems, songs and stories.
- The children will also be applying their phonetical awareness to segment and blend the sounds in simple words and sentences. We will start to progress to reading words which include Set 2 sounds in order to increase exposure to a wider variety of words.

### **Writing:**

- Pupils will continue to use their phonetic knowledge to spell and to break the flow of speech into words using simple punctuation (capital letters, finger spaces, full stops).
- This half term we will focus on spelling using 'Fred Fingers'. This RWI method involves children counting the sounds in words by pinching the sounds on their fingers before writing.
- Independent writing opportunities will be freely available in the classroom. We will be writing character descriptions, creating story maps, making books and writing letters to characters.

## Mathematics

- This term the children will be learning how to subtract confidently. This will begin by using quantities like cubes and fingers, before moving onto more abstract number sentences.
- The children will also develop their understanding of sequencing and ordering the events in stories, as well as investigating weight and capacity by measuring different materials and objects.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- St James the Great follows a values based curriculum and this half term Reception will be concentrating on the values of helpfulness. We will have circle times for children to understand and explore these values and what it means to be helpful.

We hope you have found this information useful. If you require further advice, we are available to you by appointment before or after school.

Thank you for your cooperation.

The Reception Team