



Briar Road, Shepperton

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Headteacher: Miss N. Morris BA (Hons)

Executive Principal: Mrs M.E. McCarthy MA; Ed.M

Dear Reception Families,

Last week, the children continued to get to know each other and exploring the Reception environment. They enjoyed taking part in their first PE lesson and creating self portraits.

Please remember if you would like to walk your child down to the playground gates in the morning, you will need to wait until 8.40am. If your child is still a little upset in the morning, please don't worry, they are well looked after once they get in to the classroom. If we have any specific concerns of course we will always let you know.

Reading at home

On Friday, the children brought home a 'wordless book'. Please share the book with your child and write in their green reading record to say you have, thank you. Please return your child's reading wallet every **Wednesday** ready for sending out new ones every **Friday**.

Tapestry

Tapestry is the online system that we use in Early Years at Saxon to record observations and learning. It has been hugely successful since its introduction in 2024 and feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly positive. The children really enjoy seeing photos and videos of themselves as well as receiving messages from their teacher when an observation is added from home. It is a great way to build a link between learning at home and school so that parents and teachers can build an online journey of each child's learning. If your child was with us in Nursery, you should already have access to your child's Tapestry account which will continue throughout their Reception year. Last week, you should have received an email from Tapestry with a link to set up an account. Please follow the simple online instructions to do this. You will then have access to your child's learning. If you have not received the email or require support with setting up your child's account, please speak to your child's class teacher.

When you set up an account, you will see photos and comments uploaded by staff, and you will be able to comment on these and even add your own observations from home. We aim to make at least one upload per child each week.

Fire drills

In your child's book bag today, you will received a social story that explains why we have fire drills and what the children need to do when they hear a fire alarm. Please share this with your child at home.

Learning

We are having a big focus on name-writing so please continue to practice this at home (capital letter at the beginning **only** please.). Children can practice writing their name anywhere; it does not always have to be on paper! Try writing in soap on the side of the bath, steamed up windows, in a tray of sand or chalk on the ground.

Our theme for this term is 'All About Me'

Our topics are highly influenced by the children's interests therefore activities may change from those planned.

Communication, language and literacy

This week will read the story 'Hello Friend' by Rebecca Cobb.

We will learn some new vocabulary and Makaton signs; friend, kind, share, play, share, happy, sad, together and help. Can your child show you the signs?

We will draw the characters and setting and have a go at writing initial sounds.

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2026



Phonics

This week's phonics sounds are sounds i, n, m and d. Below you can see how we teach the children to form these letters. You could have a go at doing this together; with your magic finger in the air, on your palm or on each other's backs, using play-dough or chalking on the ground.



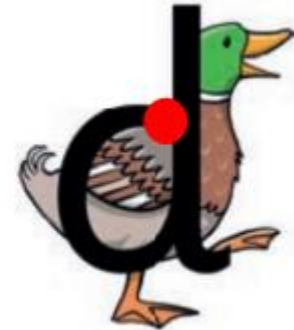
down the iguana and dot
the leaf



down, up and over the
net



down, up and over the
mouse's ears



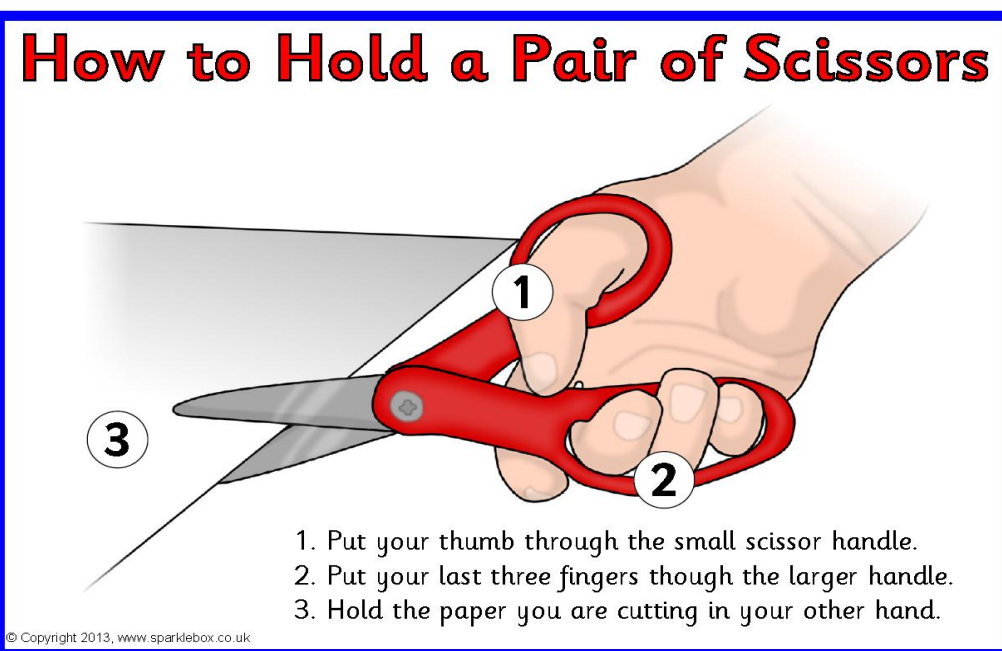
round the duck's body, up to
its head and down to its feet

Maths

This week, we will focus on **1:1 correspondance counting** (counting accurately by matching one number word to one object). We call this 'careful counting'. We will also focus on **subitising** (instantly recognising small quantities without counting). Both are foundational skills assessed early in Reception and underpin later addition, subtraction, and number composition.

Physical development

We will practice moving in different ways e.g. skipping, hopping and jumping. We will practice using scissors. Please see below for how to hold scissors:



Personal, social and emotional development:

This week, we will introduce the children to the Zones of Regulation. At home, you could talk about the zones, the different colours and feelings.

The ZONES of Regulation

			
Blue Zone Sad Bored Tired Sick	Green Zone Happy Focused Calm Proud	Yellow Zone Worried Frustrated Silly Excited	Red Zone overjoyed/Elated Panicked Angry Terrified

Notices and reminders:

- Please can we ask that all children have a Saxon book bag and not a back pack, thank you.
- Please ensure that all coats, jumpers, cardigans and water bottles are labelled.

-Snacks

Everyday, there is free fruit or vegetables available for the children to have during the morning. We are happy for you to send a snack in for your child but please ensure it is one of the snacks from the list below. Please ensure grapes, cherry tomatoes and olives are sliced into halves or ideally quarters.

- Fresh fruit
- Fresh vegetables
- Dried fruit
- Plain rice cakes
- Bread sticks
- Yoghurt tube
- Plain crackers
- Pitta bread or wraps (with no filling)
- Crackers
- A handful of sugar-free cereal

Kind regards,

Mrs Duxon, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Morley