

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the second half of the spring term. Our exciting new topic is **“What Lurks Below,”** where the children will explore the hidden world under the sea, alongside continuing to learn about rainforests, the Arctic, and how we can care for our planet. Learning will follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) across both the Prime and Specific Areas.

Prime Areas

Communication and Language

- Taking turns in conversations and listening to others
- Understanding time-related words such as *first*, *next*, and *later*
- Retelling simple stories in the correct order
- Speaking and listening through discussions linked to **underwater creatures and habitats**

Physical Development

- Moving in a variety of ways with control and confidence
- Using large PE equipment safely
- Becoming more independent when getting dressed for PE
- Continuing to develop gross and fine motor skills
- Learning about **water safety**

Personal, Social and Emotional Development – *Healthy Me*

- Learning about exercise and how our bodies react
- Making healthy food choices
- Understanding how to look after ourselves
- Learning about the Easter story and its meaning
- Celebrating Mother’s Day and thinking about people who care for us

Specific Areas

Understanding the World

- Exploring soil, rivers and the sea, noticing signs of spring
- Observing plants growing and animals becoming more active
- Learning about **ocean habitats and underwater creatures**
- Exploring ocean pollution and how we can protect it
- Investigating Arctic animals and their habitats
- Learning about rainforests and different environments
- Exploring freezing and melting
- Comparing environments and talking about simple differences between places



Literacy – Drawing Club

Texts will include: *Smeds and the Smoos*, *Where the Wild Things Are*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, and *The Gingerbread Man*

Comprehension

- Use phonics knowledge and common exception words to read and understand short texts
- Share ideas about characters, settings, and key details with adult support

Writing

- Use decodable words and common exception words (including *no* and *go*) to write short phrases
- Begin to link ideas across a phrase with adult support

Mathematics

- Representing and sorting numbers 9 and 10
- Exploring the composition of numbers to 10
- Learning number bonds to 10
- Exploring 3D shapes
- Comparing numbers within 10

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with Materials

- Joining different materials and exploring a range of textures
- Exploring **sea textures, water, sand, and slime**
- Creating **sea creature models**
- Clay modelling and creating 3D sculptures
- Designing and junk modelling
- Printing with different materials

Being Imaginative and Expressive

- Watching and talking about dance, music, and performances
- Exploring **flowing and ocean-inspired movement**
- Water-inspired dance and music and movement performances
- Singing action songs and finding the beat
- Making short storylines collaboratively with peers
- Acting out stories and using talk to sequence events and ideas

You can support your child at home by talking about the **underwater world**, reading stories together, encouraging healthy choices, practising counting to 10, and discussing **water safety**. We would also love to hear about any learning or adventures from home. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

The Reception Team