



## Reception Class Spring Term 1 Curriculum Letter All Around Us



Dear Parents,  
Happy New Year to you all and welcome back!  
This half term our topic is 'All Around Us'. It is a great topic as it involves looking at our local area and all of the wonderful places of interest and landmarks that are on our doorstep!

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

As always we want the children to have a positive and enthusiastic approach to the activities and experiences on offer. We will be continuing to encourage everybody to have a go, try their best and persevere and embrace the challenges that they meet. We want every child to celebrate making mistakes as an important and vital process in their learning.

We will be developing our concentration and want all the children to enjoy achieving what they set out to do and celebrating achievements together.

### **Communication and language**

We will be using the new language and vocabulary that we learn to express ourselves in conversation and play. It is always so exciting when children recite a new fact they have learned about London or talk about the replica model they have learned to build. Whilst we do teach key vocabulary related to London landmarks which we want the children to learn, we will also be guided by their emerging interests.

### **Physical Development**

We will continue to develop our use of one-handed tools and equipment such as pens, pencils, paintbrushes, scissors and glue. We will also be using the outside area daily to develop large motor skills and in PE lessons. The children will be doing some gymnastics in their PE lessons and exploring how they can use their bodies in a range of ways. We will giving the children a big push on their health and self-care including, toileting, dressing and putting on shoes. We would hugely appreciate it if this could also be encouraged at home.



### Mathematics

In maths we will be continuing to develop our awareness of number and quantity using games, songs and different practical resources.

At the start of the half term we will be focusing on how to use a ten frame (pictured below) and the mathematical language around number. We use ten frames to learn how to add different numbers together to make 10 and beyond. We will continue to develop our subitising skills and we will also be learning about money, and using coins in our play to buy pretend items.



### Literacy

This topic also offers wonderful opportunities for the children's development in literacy. We will be encouraging the children to write about the amazing buildings on our doorstep - Big Ben, the Shard, the London Eye, the Houses of Parliament.

We will continue to use the sounds-write programme to develop and extend our knowledge of sounds and we will be continuing to practice how to use these sounds to read and write CVC and CCVC words accurately, as well as writing short sentences. We will continue to develop our awareness of irregular words each week and will also continue with our individual reading sessions.

### Expressive Arts and Design

We will be using our observation skills to draw and create our own versions of school and the buildings around us.

We will be encouraging the children to explore different roles in new role play areas to enable them to develop their own imaginative ideas.

We will also be creating our own models and artwork of the different places of interest that we see on our walks around the local area using different media such as pastels, chalks, junk modelling and paint.

### Understanding the world

This topic has fantastic possibilities for exploring the local area around us. We will be looking at buildings and different types of buildings and what different buildings are used for.

We will be visiting the local area and will be spending time looking at the many different types of shops and transport that exist around us and how we travel from place to place.

