



# Reception Newsletter

## Spring Term 1 2024/25



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2025. We hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break.

The Reception Team:	
Moonbeam	Olivia, Jamilla and Jemima
Sunshine	Felicity, Nekay and Ira
Additional Adult	Usha/Jasmine

Our topic this half term is **Under the Sea.**

We will be learning about the fascinating creatures who inhabit our seas and oceans. We will also be learning about how plastic pollution is damaging our planet, and what we can do to prevent it. Please see below for ideas of how you can explore this topic with your child at home.

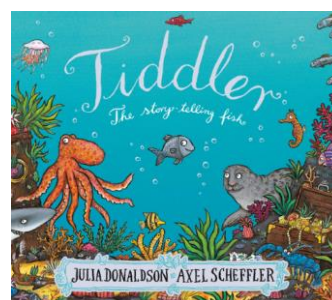
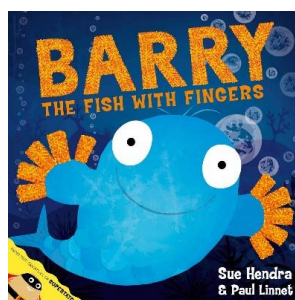
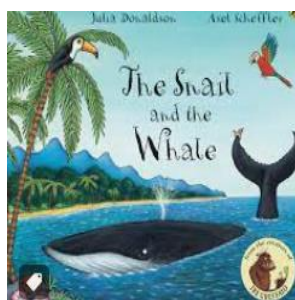
<u>Key Words</u>	<u>Books to read at home</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ocean</li> <li>- Gill</li> <li>- Fin</li> <li>- Pollution</li> <li>- Recycle</li> <li>- Habitat</li> <li>- Coral</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Sharing a Shell</i></li> <li>- <i>The Rainbow Fish</i></li> <li>- <i>Deep in the Ocean</i></li> <li>- <i>Ocean Anatomy</i></li> <li>- <i>Commotion in the Ocean</i></li> <li>- <i>Clean Up!</i></li> <li>- <i>Somebody Swallowed Stanley</i></li> </ul>

### Ideas to try at home

- Make a wind sock sea creature <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YNcCvGBRdLw>
- Design and label a new shell for a crab
- Create your own aquatic world in miniature using natural materials



**Literacy** - This half term, we will be reading *Barry the Fish with Fingers*, *Tiddler* and *The Snail and the Whale*. Our activities will include designing our own sea creatures, writing facts, and creating posters.





**Phonics** – This half term, some of us will be revisiting and recapping the sounds and tricky words below:  
f/ff, l/l, j, v, w, x, y, z/zz and qu.

I to into his no go of as has my and you.

Some of us will be learning the new phase 3 sounds below:

Oo, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er, ow.

This group will be practising the tricky words:

Be, pull/full, by, he, push, put, your, sure/pure, have, like, come, some and so.

### Duck Hands



Can you use your duck hands  
and eat your sounds?  
What do you think the word is?  
Don't forget to use your eagle  
eye first as this can help you  
spot those tricky digraphs and  
trigraphs!

**Reading** – We kindly ask that you continue to read with your child and sign their reading diary each day. A strong reading routine at home is essential to helping your child make steady progress. We are ambitious for your child's success and believe that consistent home reading is key to supporting their development throughout the year.



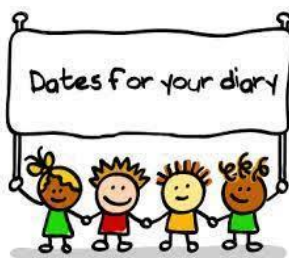
**Maths** - This half-term in maths we will be exploring the composition of numbers up to 8. We will also learn to compare mass and capacity.

Here are some ideas to support your child at home:

- Practise saying the days of the week
- Creating a balance scale out of a coat hanger and comparing mass
- Look at a calendar and find important events
- Explore composition by making numbers 1 – 8 with two different natural materials (feathers, stones, sticks etc)

### Other information -

**Show and Tell**- Each week we will be sending home a box for children to fill with items to share with the class on a Friday. This is to develop the children's oracy skills by standing up in front of the class, talking about their items and answering questions. We will create a list of children who will take part each week and inform you of when it is your child's turn.



Tutorial Day – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February (school closed except for parent meetings)

Moonbeam Library Trip- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Sunshine Library Trip- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Over the term we will be sharing examples of the work your children will be doing in class on our year group webpage: <https://www.thegemfederation.co.uk/bessemer-primary/learning-hub/classes/>