

# New Town Primary School

Our Learning: Foundation Stage Two, Spring Term 2026

## Conkers and Acorns

	Learning at school	Learning at home
<b>English</b>	<p>This term we will be continuing on our phonics journey. We will begin to recognise and use digraphs in our reading and writing. We will continue to concentrate on forming our letters correctly and develop a neat writing style. Our focus books for this term are Elmer stories and a selection of traditional tales such as Little Red Riding Hood. We will be learning about how stories are structured, the characters and the settings in which stories are set. We will also continue drawing club where we will learn new vocabulary, draw characters and settings and begin to write words and sentences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practise forming letters through name writing, writing letters you see in the environment, copying labels.</li> <li>• Practise phonics sounds.</li> <li>• Listen to stories read by an adult or a sibling. Discuss the main parts, characters and settings.</li> <li>• practice drawing characters from your favourite story.</li> <li>• Begin to read short words and logos seen in your environment.</li> <li>• Practice writing cvc, ccvc, cvcc words at home.</li> </ul>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>This term we will be learning to recognise and count to twenty and beyond. We will be putting numerals in order and noticing patterns within numbers. We will be learning the value of numbers and counting out an amount from a given group. We will begin to form our numerals and record number investigations. We will be introducing addition and subtraction and will begin to learn about shapes. We will continue to use Numbersense to give us a deeper understanding of number.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counting forwards and backwards to twenty.</li> <li>• Recognising numerals to ten.</li> <li>• Counting a given amount and matching to the numeral.</li> <li>• Notice shapes in the environment and discuss the properties.</li> <li>• Saying one more or one less than a given amount.</li> </ul>
<b>Our topic work</b>	<p>This term we will be learning about Africa. We will learn about the animals that live in Africa, what it is like to live there, try various fruits from the country and discuss the similarities and differences. We will research using stories, videos and looking at artefacts. In spring 2, we will be learning about fantasy stories. We will learn about traditional stories from other countries and make comparisons between them. We will research the characters and the settings of these stories.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To find out information about Africa</li> <li>• Visit a woodland area or farm to see what animals live in our country.</li> <li>• Visit pets within the family or visit a pet shop.</li> <li>• Make a poster about one of the large animals in Africa.</li> <li>• Read traditional tales from different countries.</li> <li>• Look at the characters in traditional stories</li> <li>• Draw and label characters from stories.</li> <li>• Read a variety of stories.</li> </ul>

### Our class expectations

Every day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrive at school on time in the correct uniform.</li> <li>• Have a positive attitude to learning!</li> <li>• Bring my book bag to school every day.</li> </ul>
Every week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete my homework by Wednesday.</li> <li>• Share my library book with my grown-ups at home</li> <li>• Read at home at least five times, and record this in my reading record</li> <li>• Practice my phonics</li> <li>• Come in to school on Fridays in my PE kit with no jewellery on and my hair tied back.</li> </ul>



### **Reading Expectations**

All children should be reading at home **at least five times per week** and reading books and reading records should be in school **every day**. Reading books should be with your reading records and placed on your desk daily.

Parents/carers should be signing reading records at **least five times per week** to show when reading has been done. Parents can sign reading records to show any books that have been read or read to the children at home however, children must prioritise their school reading book.

### **Reading tracker and competition**

We are continuing to run our whole school reading competition with prizes for those who show their dedication to reading. Teachers will be tracking daily how many times pupils in their class have their reading records signed ensuring they are meeting the five times per week expectation. These figures are then added to our reading race board and the class that has their reading records signed the most in a term wins the reading trophy and an extra 15 minutes playtime!

There are also individual prizes to be won so get reading and signing!

Reading record signed 40 times: Bronze certificate

Reading record signed 80 times: Silver certificate

Reading record signed 120 times: Gold certificate

Reading record signed 200 times: Pin for your school jumper

Reading record signed 240 times: Medal

Reading record signed 300 times: Tea Party

### **Some questions to ask your child while reading together**

- Look at the front cover. What could the book be about?
- Who is the author?
- What is an illustrator? What do they do?
- What does that word mean? Read the words around it to help you figure it out (context)
- How can you read an unfamiliar word? Can you use your Fred talk and then blend?
- Who are the main characters in the story?
- What do you think will happen next?
- How do you think that character feels? Why? How would you feel in that situation?
- Can you predict how the book will end?
- Who is your favourite character? Why?
- Is there a hidden message in the story? What is it?
- Can you retell the story in your own words?
- Do you like how the story ended? Can you think of another way the book could have ended?

## Red Word Lists

Red words are words that we do not sound out. They are words that we can sight read and know without hesitation. These words are for you to learn each week and will be checked during reading time with the class teacher and other adults.

<u>List 1</u>	<u>List 2</u>	<u>List 3</u>	<u>List 4</u>	<u>List 5</u>
I	your	are	what	was
the	you	be	all	we
my	said	of	no	so
they	put	where	when	why

## Maths facts

We would like you to spend at least 15 minutes per week practising maths facts through Numbots. Through this programme, you will practise number bonds, subitising and quick-fire numeral recognition. We will track the children's progress at school.

### [On-Line number skills challenge- NUMBOTS](#)

A secure knowledge of number bonds, addition and subtraction with the ability for rapid recall provides the foundation for understanding mathematical concepts for younger children.

'NUMBOTS' is a highly engaging, on line tool designed to help children progress with rapid recall of number bonds and simple addition and subtraction.

As part of the weekly homework there will be an expectation for children to spend regular time on NUMBOTS practicing their number facts.