Juniper Hill School

Information for Reception Parents

Term: Autumn 2 **Topic:** Room on the Broom

2-week topic starting 9th November 2026



Literacy

We will be reading the story of' 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson, where we will discuss and describe the different characters in the story. We will also be tracing and copying simple CVC captions related to the story, introducing children to 'finger spaces. In our writing, we will be reinforcing correct letter formation with the use of 'starting dots' to support. The children will also be thinking about the order of the story and sequencing pictures to help them retell it. We will revisit rhyming and encourage children to link the rhyming words within the story as well as use Kagan structures to make general rhyming pairs.

- **End points: Orders & traces over CVC, captions & sentences,**
- **Attempts correct letter formation for letter families**
- **Sequences familiar stories**

Maths

We will be looking at 4 and 5. We will be exploring different ways to represent these numbers as well as the composition of numbers to 5. We will also be exploring circles and triangles. We will learn that these are 2D shapes and we will be looking at their properties as well as using them to construct patterns and pictures. We will also be looking at capacity in 'potions class', reinforcing the vocabulary of full, nearly full, half full, nearly empty and empty. Additionally, we will be exploring the use of positional language e.g. 'in front of' and 'next to' when describing the location of objects.

End points: Develops a deep knowledge of 1-5 (*reciting, 1:1 counting, numeral recognition, subitise, composition*)

Topic work

We will be using different sensory textures such as gloop, jelly and glitter to mark make and explore writing letters and numbers. In the role-play corner, children will be getting busy testing their magical skills and using all sorts of crazy ingredients to make potions! Outside, we will be developing our essential gross motor skills by manoeuvring through obstacle courses riding our broomsticks!

Ways you can help

We would welcome any resources you may have related to the story, including any stories you have about witches, wizards or magic etc which we can share at story time. Please name the books so that we can return them back to you at the end of the topic.
Keep practising reading, writing and blending the sounds on the sound sheets we have sent home.

Reminders

- **Clothing:** Now that the weather is colder lots of the children are wearing hats, gloves etc. Please make sure that these are named where possible so it is easier to repatriate them when they are lost.
- **Zips:** on colder days, children will be asked to do their zips up. They will be asked to do this independently, provided only with minimal support where necessary. Please practice this at home to build independence.
- **Library:** we will now be issuing/changing library books this week. **Wrens Library day is Thursday** and **Robins is Wednesday.** Please take the time to read your child's chosen book through the week and return it on your class's library day to exchange for a new one.
- **Phonics**: Following our recent phonics assessments and in line with RWI progress recommendations, the children will be in homogenous groups; meaning they will be grouped with others who are working at the same standard. This is subject to change every half term and is standard practice for us at Juniper Hill.