



## Reception Newsletter

February – April 2024

# Dragons VS Dinosaurs



Welcome back to Reception! We will be starting this half-term by celebrating Italian culture. We will be going to an Italian restaurant on our school trip. How exciting! We will read the story "The Glass Maker's Daughter." and learn key information about how glass is made in Venice Italy. We will then do a week of 'People Who Help Us', and a children's pediatric nurse will be visiting the school to talk with the children about basic first aid and the importance of washing their hands and keeping safe. For the final four weeks, our teaching will focus on Dragons and Dinosaurs. The children will have an opportunity to meet a real-life dragon from the drama organization Teach Rex. We will focus on the fictional element of dragons and then discover dinosaurs and make a comparison. We have a very exciting half-term planned. It's going to be ROARsome!

### This half term we are learning:

- To have a deep understanding of numbers 8 and 9
- The importance of glass makers in Venice Italy
- To double more numbers
- How to use the internet to research key facts
- How to recognise odd and even numbers
- How to tell the difference between length and height
- About palaeontologists and fossils
- How to use a capital letter, finger spaces and full stop when writing a sentence
- About Easter and Holi Hindu celebrations
- To write a short phrase or sentence in meaningful contexts that can be read by others with support
- That dinosaurs are now extinct

### How to help your child at home:

- Practise reading all set 1/2 letter sounds and using the letter rhyme to help your child to write their letters correctly
- Encourage your child to zip their coat up independently
- Listen to them read at home as much as possible
- Practise reading and writing the red words learnt in phonics
- Encourage your child to practise ordering and recognising numbers to 15
- Encourage your child to write simple sentences using their Fred fingers to sound out the words
- Talk to your child about the environment they live in and how it is different from other places in the world
- Encourage your child to practise writing their first and last name

### The children will:

- Practise speaking to unfamiliar adults to promote oracy
- Visit an Italian restaurant and explore the kitchen, speak to a chef, and try a home made pizza
- Be able to talk about pictures of familiar situations which are in the past (key focus on police officers)
- Research a well-known scientist- Mary Anning and her study of dinosaurs
- Go on an archaeological dig to find fossils
- Design a knights or dragon's shield
- Have a special visit from a Dragon through the company Teach Rex
- Go pond dipping and create an observational drawing of what lives in that habitat
- Have a paint fight to celebrate the Festival of Colours
- Create their own dinosaur poo

### Things to remember:

Children in Reception will have a weekly outdoor learning session. Please bring in a pair of wellies with their name in. We do have a few spare if needed. We have a set of waterproof suits for each child to wear if it is wet but a waterproof coat in school is useful too. **Note that the days of our sessions have changed:**

RPC will need their wellies on **Wednesday**.

RLK will need their wellies on **Thursdays**.

**Thank you for all your support!**

For more details, please see our website.

[www.clapgateprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.clapgateprimaryschool.co.uk)