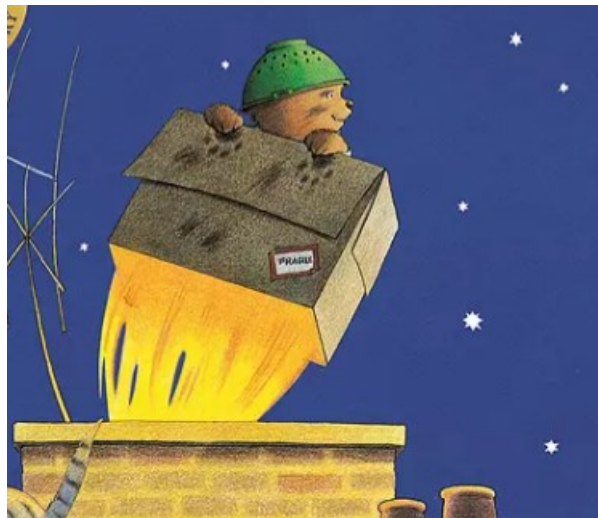




**Dallington CEP
The Street
Dallington
East Sussex
TN21 9NH**

Dallington Class



**Spring 2025:
Reception
Eureka!**

Dear parents and carers,

Happy new year and welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Christmas and had a chance to relax during all the festive chaos!

We have a wonderful spring term lined up for Dallington Class. Our class topic is Eureka! We are launching straight in with our class theme 'Blast Off!' and will be spending the next six weeks exploring all the different wonders of space!

We will begin the term sharing what we already know about space and what we would like to find out as a class over the next six weeks.

We will be looking at 5 key texts to do with space, these are: Whatever Next, Man on the Moon, The Darkest Dark, Beegu and Astro Girl, a variety that offers lots of opportunity for us to explore and learn about the Moon, space, famous astronauts, a sense of belonging, diversity and ambition. Alongside these books, we will enjoy lots of other fiction and non-fiction stories related to the topic. We will look to the future, creating our own futuristic rockets, and to the past to learn about the moon landings. We will create our own "moon dough", crack alien messages, design our own planets and have a go at becoming astronauts! It's going to be a fun and busy term!

We hope to be outside as much as possible this term, exploring the school grounds as the first signs of spring emerge. Therefore we would be grateful if you could ensure that your child has a coat, hat, gloves and named pair of wellies in school at all times.

As always, please do let us know if you have any questions about your child's learning—our door is always open. Please do continue to share your child's achievements and news on Tapestry. We love to see what they get up to outside of school and it provides a lovely opportunity for them to share their photographs and news with their friends.

Many thanks for your continued support,

The Dallington Class team.

Literacy

We will be reading a rich variety of fiction texts this term, including *Astro Girl*, *Whatever Next* and *Beegu*. We will also be exploring non-fiction texts including *The Darkest Dark*, *Here We Are - Notes for Living on Planet Earth* and *The Skies Above My Eyes*. We will be developing our prediction skills and expanding our vocabulary, as well as using our imaginations to invent our own ending to a familiar tale.

In writing, we will be orally composing sentences and holding them in our memory before attempting to write them in part or in whole as appropriate. We will continue to work on spelling CVC words independently as well as starting to spell ccvc or cvcc words. In handwriting, we will be focusing on forming letters correctly.

In phonics, we are continuing our phase 3 sounds, which means the last of the single letter sounds and then moving on to consonant digraphs (such as sh, th, ch) and then vowel digraphs (ay, ee and so on). We will be continuing to practise segmenting sounds to read and write words,

Physical Development

Through activities such as spaceship building, planet dancing and moon walking the children will work on body strength, coordination, balance and agility. They will continue to develop the foundations of handwriting, and will practise using tools such as pencils, scissors and cutlery.

PE: This term, we will focus on [developing coordination and footwork, as well as balance through circuits](#). PE continues to be on **Thursday** each week. Please continue to send in your children in their PE kits!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be focusing on continuing to develop our sense of self as a valuable individual through showing pride in our achievements and developing our ability to express opinions and preferences. We will be talking about our ambitions and learning about different jobs.

We will focus on our friendships and working cooperatively to reach our goals. We will be developing our understanding that others think and respond in different ways and with the help of our key texts we will be learning to understand and embrace differences. We will focus on understanding others thoughts and feelings as well as what we can do to make our classroom a safe and happy place!

We will also be focusing on the different factors that support health and wellbeing, such as healthy eating, sleep and physical activity.

Communication and Language

The development of speaking, understanding and listening continues to be central to all that we do in class this term. The children will be focusing on considering the listener, taking turns conversationally and listening to others' responses.

We will be asking how and why questions as we enjoy a range of fiction and non-fiction texts about space and will be using the past tense correctly, recounting events.

Through developing a deep familiarity with our selected space texts we will be learning and using new vocabulary.

And finally, we will get our imaginations going by enhancing the stories we read in class and adding to them.

Maths

In maths, our focus continues to be on developing a deep understanding of number and numerical pattern. We are continuing to follow the Mastering Number curriculum set by the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics.

We will continue to develop our subitising and counting skills for numbers within and beyond 5, and increasingly connect quantities to numerals. We will also begin to identify missing parts for numbers within 5. We will explore the structure of the numbers 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit' and connect this to finger patterns.

We will compare numbers, focusing on equal and unequal groups, with a focus on quantity. We will begin to learn about doubles and odd and even numbers, related to shape. We will continue to develop an understanding of the counting sequence and link cardinality and ordinality through the 'staircase' pattern. We will order numbers and play track games and join in with verbal counts beyond 20, hearing the repeated pattern within the counting numbers.

Reading

The children have been making fantastic progress with reading! Thank you for all your support at home; please do continue to read with your child every day if possible as it really is the single biggest thing you can do to support their learning. If you find they are just too tired to read their school book, then share a favourite story with them instead. Please do let us know if your child is reluctant to read at home, so we can endeavour to support further.

The children will be given a new reading book aligned to their current phonics learning whenever they have read the previous book at least three times - at home or school. Please do fill in your child's reading record every time they read with an adult at home. We would be very grateful if you could also ensure that your child's reading folder is in their book bag every day.

Expressive Arts and Design

We encourage the children to be imaginative and to explore and use different media and materials every day. Planned activities include: junk modelling rockets, wax resist space pictures, collaborative art, creating our own planets using oil pastels and using marbling techniques to make our own planets.

The children will also be able to express their ideas through dance and music and through role play opportunity in our home corner and play house.

Outdoor learning

We plan to be outside as much as possible, come rain or shine, so please do ensure your child has a waterproof coat or puddle suit and a named pair of wellington boots in school every day.

Our learning is very hands on and as a result the children can be very messy at the end of the day. We are very grateful for your understanding!

Understanding the World

The children will be taking part in many topic-related activities that will help develop their understanding of the world. These will include: comparing the environment of the Moon to that of Earth and learning about what humans need to survive; exploring maps and Google Earth; learning about the solar system and the history of space exploration.

RE

In RE this term we are learning looking at the creation story and why the word 'God' is so important to Christians. The principal aim of R.E. is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that the children can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief.