



Reception Newsletter
Autumn 2 - 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful holiday and are looking forward to the busy half term ahead.

Our topics for this half term are:
'BEARS' and 'CHRISTMAS'

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term Reception will be 'Celebrating Difference.' As a class we will be thinking about what makes them special and unique. We will look at different families and homes from around the world, celebrating different cultures and customs.

Physical Development

The class will continue to develop their gross and fine motor skills through a variety of activities. Please encourage your child to make marks, draw and begin to write at home. Pattern and letter formation sheets will be sent home on Friday (from Friday 8th November) and need to be returned to school on the following Wednesday.

Reception will be participating in PE lessons on Tuesday with Mr Naughton and on a Thursday with Mrs Davidson. This half term pupils will focus on movement and ball skills. They will recap responding to perform movements learnt on command, send and stop objects in different ways. In addition they will practise dribbling balls using hands and feet and play different aiming games.

Communication and Language

Our Power of Reading books this half term are 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and 'Biscuit Bear.' Through these stories we encourage using spoken and written language in their play and learning. The class will bring 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' to life by acting it out through role-play, dance and music. The class will then be joining 'Biscuit Bear' on his adventures in the kitchen by designing and creating their very own 'Biscuit Bear.' This will encourage them to talk about picture books using prediction, asking relevant questions and making connections with their own experiences.

Literacy

In literacy the class will continue to learn phonemes (single letter sounds - the smallest unit of sound) and begin to learn digraphs (a combination of two letters representing one sound, as in *ch* and *ee*) through the Jolly Phonics program. We will continue to send home the sound cards weekly. **Please attach these to their 'Sound Books'** and practise them daily at home. As we move through this half term your child will receive a reading folder. Word lists will begin to go home (in your child's reading folder) once your child is secure with the letter sounds learnt so far and is able to blend sounds together to read

words. Two word lists will be added; a CVC word list (consonant, vowel, consonant) and a tricky word list (sight words). Please do not add anything else to this folder!

- FRIDAY -Sound Book cards
- THURSDAY - CVC and tricky word lists

We will hear your child read their word lists in class weekly and if they are secure they will be changed for new ones. Please let us know how they are getting on with their reading at home via the Reading Record Book. If there isn't a comment we will assume your child has not read their reading list/books that week and will therefore not change them.

Maths

In our number work we will be:

- Sorting
- Counting accurately with one-to-one correspondence
- Comparing groups of numbers
- Looking at changes - one more and one less

In our shape, space and measure work we will be:

- Sequencing daily events and naming days of the week
- Recognising and recreating repeating patterns

Understanding the World

Through our topic, 'Bears' the class will be finding out about lots of different types of bears and their habitats. They will use information books and iPads to compare different bears, thinking about their similarities and differences.

RE

Our focus for this half term is to learn about and celebrate 'Christmas.' Through the Nativity story the class will learn about the meaning and importance of Christmas. Reception will take part in a whole school Christmas Service at St. Mary's Church on Thursday 19th December at 9:45am. All parents and carers are welcome to attend and there will be more details to follow.

Expressive Arts and Design

In music Mrs Le Prevost will focus on patterns this half term, with bears as our inspiration to link in with their class topic, and explore how we can create rhythms using body percussion and instruments. Starting out with copying simple clapping rhythms, the children will create their own patterns and start to record them using their own notation. We will also be developing their sense of pitch and pulse through singing and playing games, as well as rehearsing songs for our Christmas nativity.

In Art Mrs Adams will be explore painting and printing with the class. They will develop their understanding of the role of an illustrator looking at picture books with bears e.g. Winnie the Pooh, Paddington Bear, Can't You sleep Little Bear? And then create their own bear images.

Cooking, Craft, Play dough and Gardening

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £40 per child for the year in Reception, in order to cover our cooking ingredients, specialised craft equipment, play dough ingredients and gardening costs - as you can imagine this does add up! Any left over money will be spent on resources for your children to use! If we don't have many donations, we will not be able to carry out these sessions, which would be a shame as the children really love them! If you would prefer to pay per term, this is also possible!

Uniform

This year the Reception uniform is the same all year round, please see the school website for further details. All uniform can be ordered from the school website. It is very important that ALL of your child's uniform is **CLEARLY LABELLED!** We spend a lot of time outside - as it gets colder please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather!

PE - PLEASE LABEL ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S PE KIT

TUESDAY - ALL children to arrive dressed in their PE kit - they do not need to bring in their school uniform.

THURSDAY - ALL children to come to school wearing their school uniform and have their PE kit in their PE bag.

DIARY DATES

- 31st October - Class Trip - Rose Theatre - Oi Frog
- 5th & 6th November (4:00-7:00pm) - Learning and Progress Meetings (Parent Meetings)
- 8th November - Mufti Day (children come to school dressed in their own clothes and donate a prize/gift to the Tombola or Secrets Room)
- 29th November - Christmas tree celebration assembly in the hall (9:10am)
- 6th December - FOSMS Christmas Fair
- 19th December - Christmas Nativity Service at St. Mary's Church (9:45am)
- 20st December - LAST DAY OF TERM & Christmas jumper day - children will finish at 2:30pm

If you have any questions please speak to a member of the Reception team or send an email.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Davidson and Miss James