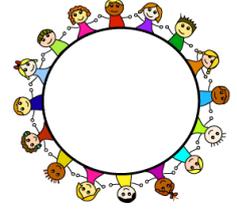


# Reception Class Newsletter

January 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

**Happy New Year!**



We hope that everyone has had a lovely, relaxing break over the Christmas period. Thank you for all the lovely gifts and cards we received before Christmas, your kindness is greatly appreciated.

We really hope you enjoyed watching the children's nativity performance. We are sure you will agree, they were all superstars!

At the end of last term, we were extremely pleased to welcome back Mrs Thomas after her maternity leave, Mrs Thomas is our class teaching assistant. She is with us every morning and will be assisting with extra support within the classroom.

As we begin a new term, here are a few quick reminders...

Please ensure that children only have water in their school bottles, as we like to promote good oral health.

Children only receive free milk until their fifth birthday. If you would like your child to continue having school milk after this, you will need to complete the online form and pay for their milk. The school office will be able to help you with this.

As the weather will be much wetter and colder this term, please ensure your child brings in a suitable coat and shoes each day. Velcro shoes are preferred as these are easier for children to put on themselves. Wellingtons can also be left at school for muddy play days and forest school trips.

We understand that from time-to-time children may have toilet accidents or get dirty during their play and we have a very limited supply of spare clothes. Therefore, please could you supply a change of clothes in your child's bag? Any donations of extra underwear and clothing is always appreciated.

This term our **PE sessions will be on a Friday**. Please ensure your child wears suitable clothing to school on this day. As we occasionally have PE outside, jogging bottoms and trainers are a good option.

Thank you.

This term, our topic is animals. We will be looking at a range of different animals and their habitats. We will explore the different types of climates animals live in and discuss their features. In art, we will design animal print and patterns. We will compare animals' environments with our own environment and look closely at our own town and community.

Children will be learning about, Chinese New Year and the year of the tiger.

In maths, we will be deepening children's understanding of numbers by comparing the composition of numbers up to 10. Children will be looking at what makes a pair and will be combing two groups together to find the total. Furthermore, we will be learning about weight, capacity, height, and length.

During our phonic sessions we will be focusing on phase 3 sounds and recapping phase 2 sounds. We will be segmenting and blending letter sounds together to help us with our reading and writing. During phase 3, we introduce digraphs and trigraphs (2-3 letters, but one sound). Please continue to support your child with this at home. Whenever possible ask your child to practise their writing. Maybe they could try writing thank you cards for Christmas presents, shopping lists or practise writing simple sentences.



**Reading books** - Thank you so much for the encouragement you have shown in listening to your child read. At this point of the year, you should find that your child knows many of the sounds and can blend these together to read independently. Please continue to spend as much time as possible enjoying and sharing these books together, it really does make such a difference to their progress. Please can we have all books and homework returned on a Thursday. We will send home new reading books on a Friday. **Children should bring their book and book bag into school each day, as we like to hear them read at school too.**

**Tricky words** - Please let us know if you feel your child confidently knows the set in their book out of sequence.



Forest School - Mrs Ward is a trained forest school leader. We hope to begin forest school sessions for Reception Class every Wednesday this term. **We will inform you of when these will begin.** On this day, children should bring into school appropriate clothing for the weather. Ideally, they will require, wellingtons and a waterproof coat, or all-in-one suit/waterproof trousers. If you have any questions about this, please speak to Mrs Ward.



**Make a noise** - We will be taking part in the Swindon music festival in March. **More details will follow nearer the time.** The children will be learning lots of new songs around the theme of Traditional Tales, which they will perform during the festival.

**Show and Tell** - This term our show and tell is all about **our favourite animals.** When it is your child's turn, please could they bring in a piece of research about their favourite animal. This could be a picture in a book, a printed photograph, or a drawing they have made of the animal. Please help them to prepare a few facts about the animal, such as, where it lives, what it eats, what are its main features. They will then read these out to the rest of the class.

Show and Tell dates:

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan- Mika, Gracie,

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Jan- Fletcher, James, Jett

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan- Jenisha, KC, Eloise

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Jan- Jamie, Harriet,

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan- Jemima, Leo

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb- Theo, Patrick

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb- Alfie, Nathan

## **Can you help!**

**We are very low on spare clothes for both boys and girls. If you have any clothes, especially trousers, pants, and socks, in ages 4-6 years, they would be extremely appreciated.**

**We are looking for equipment for our forest school sessions. If you have any saucepans, bowls, garden tools, tarps, kitchen utensils, firewood, logs or camping equipment you no longer need we would love any donations.**

**If you ever have any worries or questions, please do not hesitate to come and see us.**

**Thank you for your support**

**Mrs Ward, Miss Williams and Mrs Thomas**