



Newsletter

Autumn Term One 2023

Dear Parents,

We are so pleased to welcome back our lovely children from last year and to welcome some new children into our Reception and Nursery class – it has been lovely to see everyone after the long summer holiday. The classroom was decorated over the summer and is now a peaceful, calming environment for the children to work in. The children have already enjoyed investigating their new classroom layout and outdoor area.

The title of our **Topic** for this half term is '**All about me**' and '**Changes within living memory**'. Within these topics the children will investigate what makes them special and how families are the same and different. We will look at what toys and games we play with now and compare them to the toys and games our parents and our grandparents played with.

In addition to this, the Reception and Nursery children will be immersed in language and storytelling through our 'Talk through stories' topic, which will focus on personal change and development. There will be lots of opportunities for role play and using the children's interests as a stimulus for imaginative play.

Little Wandle – Phonics / Reading.

We will be continuing '**Little Wandle**' to teach early reading and spelling; the children love these books which have lots of interesting pictures in and some exciting vocabulary. Each Thursday your child will bring home a new Little Wandle book which they will have previously read at school and will therefore be familiar with the text. Your child should be able to read their book without any help, but if they cannot read a word, please do support them.

The books will be collected in on the Monday ready to start a new Little Wandle book. Please can you record in your child's reading record when they have read at home to let us know how they have done. In addition, your child will bring home another reading book for pleasure to share with you.

Spellings for the children in Year 1 will be stuck into their reading record on a Monday, they also have a small orange book to practice their spellings at home during the week before being tested on them on a Friday.

Library books will come home with your child on a Monday to be returned to school the following Monday, please look at these books with your child, look at the pictures and discuss the story.

In **English** the children in Reception will be using Talk through Stories to explore books together, we will look at one book for a period of two weeks focusing on developing oracy with the story and then use this to help us to analyse the story and develop a deep understanding of the story as well as learning how to use the stories vocabulary in the correct context.

The Year 1 children will be learning some of the alternative ways of writing (graphemes) for the sounds already learnt. For example, the sound ee can be written as ea as in bean. They will also be learning how to punctuate their writing and they will start to be introduced to cursive writing with the children starting and finishing their letters on the line.

In **Maths** the children in EYFS will be focusing on counting numbers and comparing two groups of quantities, we will start with lots of number recognition activities on numbers up to five. The children in Year 1 will be looking at numbers beyond twenty, they will start with some place value work before moving onto addition later in the half term. There will be opportunities for maths, in our outdoor environment and continuous provision for all year groups.

In **Science** we will be looking at how we change over time, the children will be looking at what they were like as babies and how they have grown, they will consider what they need to help them grow and will investigate healthy lifestyles and the importance of eating a balanced diet.

In **RE** children will think about what it means to belong to a faith community. They will learn about the ways babies are welcomed into religions and the promises made at weddings. They will think about their own network of belonging and how we all belong to someone.

In **PSHE** children will learn about families and friendships and safe relationships.

Our **PE** lessons will be on Thursday afternoons. Depending on the weather and activity, the sessions will take place either in our school hall or outside on the playground / school field. Please ensure that your child has both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school which is clearly labelled with their name and a pair of trainers for outdoor PE.

Forest School is on Tuesday afternoon this half term. Children will need wellies and some old jogging bottoms or similar, their school jumper on top is fine. Please ensure that they have a sun hat/ winter hat depending on the weather.

Homework

Reception / Nursery

The children's photos and work will be added to their folder which is in the corridor, if you wish to take it home, please speak to a staff member to sign your child's file in and out. We would

like parents to contribute to their child's portfolio with any home learning too, there will be a box in the corridor with parents' sheets for you to complete and add to your child's file . Children will bring home sheets with the sounds they have learnt for that week, which they need to practice at home. Initially the children in Reception will have the letters sounds they have been taught stuck in their reading records and will bring home wordless books, please use these books to chat to your child about what they can see in the pictures what sounds items might start or end with, reading books with words will follow for Reception children as we progress through the phonics scheme. Please could you sign or initial in their reading record book when they have read to you.

Yr1 – In addition to reading at home, the children will receive weekly spellings to learn each week, these will be given out on a Monday which will then be tested the Friday. They will be bringing home reading books and home learning sheets, please practice these with your children.

Sharing Assembly

Please join our sharing assembly every Friday to celebrate the children's achievements, these will be at 2.45pm on a weekly basis.

As always, if there is anything you wish to discuss we are always available, please pop in or message us via Dojo.

Many thanks

Mrs. Chappell

And the Class 1 team