

Autumn First Half Term Bulletin

Welcome to Reception's first topic letter for this year.

This half-term our topic is...

What a Superstar!

What will we learn?



A big part of the children's learning this half term is focussed on settling in, getting to know each other and how to play well together, and following class routines and rules (and why we need them). We will be learning all about who we are, what we like and the things that we are good at. We'll discover how we are all the same in some ways and different in others and that this makes us all special. Over this half term we will be talking about ourselves and thinking about the things we like or dislike doing. The children will learn about how we change as we grow and share our dreams for when they grow up. We'll also look at the different parts of our bodies and learn about the jobs that some people do that help us all.

We will be starting phonics this half term by learning single letter sounds and begin to be able to identify these in text and say each sound. The children will also begin to be able to blend sounds to read simple words and to write these letters using the correct formation.

In maths we will learn to match and sort objects using different properties, compare objects based on their properties, copy and create repeating patterns, count forwards and backwards to 5, count up to 5 objects accurately, quickly recognise up to 5 objects without needing to count them, understanding the number bonds for numbers to 5 (e.g. 3 and 2 make 5), name and find common 2D shapes and be able to sequence events that happen during the day and night.

How can parents help?

Reading books will be sent home with your child every Monday. The children will choose a Snuggle-up sharing story for you to enjoy reading with your child. Please share the story several times over the week. By the end of the week your child might even enjoy using the pictures to help to tell you the story! Do ask questions to help to get your child thinking about the story, its characters and settings. For example 'What do you think Goldilocks will do next?' or 'What would you say to the giant in this story?' But most of all make story time fun and enjoyable. Perhaps you could encourage role play to act out the story together or maybe you might enjoy going to visit a place similar to that in the story or possibly do some craft related to it instead. It would be lovely to see anything that you have done uploaded to Tapestry!

In addition to the sharing book, Reception children will also bring home a book for them to read to you. Initially these will be wordless books but as new letters and sounds are taught increasingly complex texts will come home which are linked to the letter sounds that have been taught to the children. Again please make time for your child to read for just 5-10 minutes each day to an adult. It is beneficial for your child to read this book to the end 2 or 3 times over the week. This repetition helps your child's reading fluency

(speed and intonation) and their comprehension of what they have read. A reading record has been sent home for you to record when your child has read.

Please take care of our school books and make sure they come back in book bags each day so that staff can also share these books with your child and so that we can swap them for a new book/s on Mondays. Please don't put water bottles in book bags because we've had quite a few damaged by water leaking. Thanks!

It would be greatly appreciated if you could help your child to practise and use the Letters and Sounds that have been taught during the week and to practise recognising these and saying their letter sound. You could play all sorts of games at home to make this fun and a list of possible activities will be sent home when we learn our first set of letters and sounds. When we start our phonics sessions, the letter sounds practised each week will be sent home via Tapestry on a Friday.

PE and Games

PE/Games lessons will take place on Thursday afternoons and will be with Mr Harris our PE teacher. The children will be learning how to move in different ways with control, balance and awareness of their surroundings. One of the most important skills learned when we have a PE session is to start to be able to dress independently. The children will all be at different stages at this and will always be given support but encouraged to have a go first. So don't be surprised if your child comes home with a back to front jumper, it's all part of the learning! Finally, please make sure that your child has any PE clothes named because the children often get them muddled up with someone else's when getting changed.

Please do ask if you have any questions or need any further information.

Thanks for your support,

Mr Rix