

Year R Newsletter September 2021



Welcome to the first topic newsletter of the year. We send these out half termly to give you information about our learning activities in the year group. The children are enjoying their first few days in school and will soon get used to our school routine. We are very pleased with how well they are settling.

Our topics this half-term are **“Guess who?”** and **“Harvest”**.



We are taking lots of photos to record their first few experiences and these will soon be put onto Tapestry for you to see.

Literacy – We will be sharing books about different children, families, and where we live. During Harvest we will learn to retell the story of the Little Red Hen using actions, as well as looking at non-fiction texts about where our food comes from. We will also be starting our phonics lessons alongside practising pre-writing letter shapes.

Mathematics – The children will be matching, sorting and comparing amounts, which will also include size, mass and capacity. We will be introducing the children to different maths representations and resources within our inside and outside provision alongside positional language.

Understanding of the world – Following our topic “Guess who” we will talk about our families and how different families like and do different things. We will also look at how we celebrate Harvest around the world.

Art and design – We will create self-portraits, pictures of our families and home using pencil drawings and paint. During our Harvest celebrations we will explore vegetable printing, scarecrow making and textures.

Physical Development – We will begin to develop our gross and fine motor skills through hand gym, dough gym” and “squiggle while you wriggle”. We will also start to introduce children to PE lessons both inside and outside.

How you can help your child at home:

- Read on a regular basis, either school book or library book.
- Play board games/dice games that involve turn taking and counting
- Go for a walk and encourage the children to listen, look and talk about the things they see and hear.



Please share home learning with us through Tapestry using photos and videos.



Dates for your diary

October

11th October 2021

INSET Day – School closed

25th – 29th October 2021

Half-term – School closed



Water Bottles

In the interest of hygiene we will be sending home your child’s water bottle every Friday, so you can give it a thorough wash. Please remember to return on the following Monday



PE Days

Thursday is outdoor PE- please send your child into school wearing leggings or tracksuit bottoms, and normal school cardigan/sweatshirt)

Monday is indoor PE - children will change into PE shorts and T shirts from their PE bags which stay in school.

Phonics Lesson

You are invited to come into school to watch a phonics lesson to learn more about how we teach phonics in school:

Tuesday, 28th September, 9.00am

Dragonflies Class

Friday, 1st October, 9.00am

Bumblebees Class



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Reading

Learning to read is one of the most important skills that your child will develop over the next few years. The more support and encouragement that you can offer your child, the more likely it is that he or she will make good progress.

At school we are using the *Oxford Reading Tree* series to take your child through the early stages of learning to read. We are using the *Floppy's Phonics* teaching programme, which is a step-by-step phonics reading scheme. It introduces the children to the letters and sounds (the alphabetic code) that are at the foundation of all reading and writing.

To reinforce the teaching in school, your child will bring home some books to share with you. These may be:

- *Floppy's Phonics Sounds Books*, to practise the sounds and letters taught at school
- *Floppy's Phonics* decodable readers to practise reading stories and different text types.

You may like to visit www.oxfordowl.co.uk for further information about phonics, helping your child to read and for free resources and eBooks. You will also be given a login for Oxford Owl which gives you access to our phonics books alongside decodable reading books.