

# Reception Parents' Newsletter

## Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term and the run up to Christmas!

We hope you had a good half term and are ready to get back into the swing for the second part of the Autumn Term.

Well done for a super start to the school year! The children have settled amazingly well and adapted to their new routines brilliantly! Thank you for all your support and thank you to all the parents that have contributed to their child's online learning journey-through the **Evidence Me App**. Its lovely to see what the children are doing at home and hopefully you find it reassuring to know that the children are happy and safe at school.

Our topic this term is '**Festivals, Changes & Seasons**' which will be taught through the Early Years Foundation Stage areas of learning and R.E. Below are just some of the activities that the children will be doing this term. In some cases, the activities will be guided by the children's interests.

### PSE:

Road Safety Week  
Children in Need  
Christmas Jumper Day  
Christmas Party Day  
Anti-Bullying Week  
Sharing toys and resources  
Turn taking through games  
Celebrating difference  
Learning about character and character traits

### Expressive Arts and Design:

Exploring & describing different textures  
Poppy crafts  
Junk modelling-rockets  
Firework blow painting/ printing  
Colour mixing  
Calendars, Christmas cards/decorations

### Music:

Exploring sounds using voices, body percussion and instruments. Perform in the Christmas production.

### RE:

People Who Care For Us  
Advent

### RHE:

All About Me

### Traditional Tale of the half term:

Little Red Riding Hood

### Days to remember:

PE- Wednesdays (Mr Sigley-Dance) & Thursdays (Miss Mogford-Multi-Skills)

Full PE kit/ no

Jewellery/earrings to be worn

Reading books will be changed on Mondays and Thursdays; please make sure books are in book bags and diaries are signed. Thank you.

Library books will be swapped and given out on Fridays.

Homework books will be given out on Friday and need to be returned by the following **Wednesday**.



### Communication & Literacy:

Nursery Rhyme Week,  
Circle Time, Show & Tell, Manners  
Role play-Birthdays & Santa's Workshop  
Anticipating key events in stories  
Reading/writing CVC words/captions/labels  
Phase 2 real/nonsense words  
Elf of the Shelf diaries  
Write invitations & birthday/Christmas cards

### Physical Development:

Dance-Mr Sigley & Core Skills-Miss Mogford  
Throwing at a target  
Dough Disco & Write Dance  
Healthy food choices  
Letter formation & tripod pencil grip  
Adjusting speed & ball skills  
Using spoons, cutters, mixing/stirring-making potions  
Balance and walking on heels

### Mathematics:

One more/one less within 5  
Adding 1/subtracting 1  
Number bonds to 5 & Forming numbers to 5  
Number & place value 0-10  
Compare two groups  
Order and sequence familiar events  
2D shape rockets  
Weighing Christmas parcels-heavy/light

### Understanding the World:

Exploring materials and different properties of materials  
Seasonal changes/ Winter welly walk  
Road Safety Week, Diwali, Bonfire Night  
St. Andrews Day, Christmas and Nativity  
Light/Dark & Night/Day  
Toys old and new  
Exploring freezing/melting  
North/South pole

### Staff in Reception

Miss Mogford  
Class Teacher



Mrs Bradley,  
Reception  
Teaching  
Assistant



## Phonics Parent Meeting



### Weekly Timetable

#### Monday

- Gospel Assembly (whole school)
- Reading books changed

#### Tuesday

#### Wednesday

- P.E. Dance (Mr Sigley)
- Homework books collected in

#### Thursday

- Music
- Reading books changed
- P.E. Multi-Skills (Miss Mogford)

#### Friday

- Success Assembly (whole school)
- Library slot (Library books to be returned & swapped)
- Tricky word/sound pack check

Wednesday 3rd November-via Teams at 3:30pm or 5:30pm. Please use the same link for both meetings (you only need to attend one).

### What can you do at home?

- Encourage your child to observe what is going on around them and talk about what they have seen, heard, environmental print etc.
- Trips to the library (when possible) to develop an interest in reading.
- Read non fiction books together to discover contents page, index, titles and captions.
- Read any tricky words written in reading records together to support word recognition.
- Practise writing their own surname, words from their sound packs and other familiar words.
- Play phase 2 phonics games on Phonics Play <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/>



### Homework books

New homework grids will be added to your child's homework book later this week. Homework books will be collected in on a **Wednesday** and given out on a **Friday**. Please continue to complete one activity per week and sign and date the activity. We had some fantastic homework/ creations last half term and a big well done to all the children who received the 'Homework Hero' award. Don't forget photo/video evidence of homework can also be sent to us via the 'Evidence Me App'. Please do ensure it is your child's own work and your child is completing/taking part in the activity. The process to us is far more important than the finished product. If the activity is more practical please just add a quick comment to let us know how your child got on with the activity, your comments are really valuable to us and they only need to be brief.



### Sound Packs

Please continue to practise the phonics sounds, tricky words, high frequency words and numbers in your child's sound pack. We will aim to change these once a week but please can children bring them to school every day. Although its important for children to have an awareness of the letter names, the sounds in the pack refer to the letter sound not the letter name, e.g. for dog children would say d/o/g not 'dee' 'oh' 'gee'.

Please encourage children **not to add 'uh'** on the ends of sounds, e.g. cuh/tuh/muh as they will struggle to blend the sounds together. The link below shows an example of how to pronounce the sounds correctly, alternatively please type in '**parent video-how to say the sounds**' into YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>

Your child will soon receive some CVC (constant/vowel/constant words) to practise. Please encourage your child to segment the sounds by pressing on the sound buttons and blending the sounds to read the words. E.g. for cat- c/a/t =cat. Some children will find this tricky at first and may be able to segment the sounds but not blend them or may segment them and then say random words after. Unfortunately, blending is one of those skills that will come with time, that's why its important to practise as much as possible. Reading regularly is a great way to practise this skill as well as orally playing games and giving instructions, e.g. pass me the c/u/p, touch your f/ee/t etc.

### REMINDERS...

- ⇒ Children need to have a waterproof coat in school every day. We still have children coming to school without a coat, they will be unable to go outside unless they have a suitable coat. Now the weather is getting colder children may also need to bring in hats, scarves and gloves.
- ⇒ A bag of spare clothes to be kept on your child's peg- just in case!
- ⇒ Book bags/books/reading diaries to be brought into school every day please.
- ⇒ Any donations of high-quality toys that you no longer require.
- ⇒ Please let us know if you require any more 'WOW' cards.
- ⇒ PE kit is as follows: sky blue polo shirt with the school logo/navy hoddie with the school logo navy shorts/joggers and trainers. All items of clothing clearly labelled with your child's name.
- ⇒ Only water to be provided in children's water bottles please.
- ⇒ Children can wear non-uniform on their birthday. If their birthday falls on the weekend they are welcome to wear it on the Friday before or the Monday after.

**Thank You!**