



## Reception Autumn 2 2023 Newsletter



The first term has flown by and as we reflect on the first 8 weeks, it's hard to believe that the children have only been in school for a short time. They are beginning to get to grips with new routines, the environment and the expectations. It has been a busy term and we would like to thank you for supporting us and your child with the home learning, sending in photos, star moments, practicing their phonics, attending sessions, sending items in the treasure box, completing Danny Dolphin etc. We are grateful for having a good parent partnership and are looking forward to developing this more next term.

We have had some lovely comments from children, other staff and parents about the activities that the children have been involved in like senses day, hello yellow day, making soup, harvest etc.



## Curriculum- What will the children be learning this term?

Below is a brief overview of what we will be learning this term. Our Topic is all about Time detectives. We have lots of interesting and exciting activities planned for the children.

| Week          | Topic  | Literacy                           | Phonics               | Maths   | Other   |
|---------------|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| 1<br>6/11/23  | Diwali—what is Diwali, who celebrates it, what happens at Diwali?  | Traditional tales<br>3 little pigs | ff ss ll j            | 2D shapes   |   |
| 2<br>13/11/23 | Florence Nightingale – How did Florence help make hospitals better today?  | 3 little pigs                      | v w x y               | One more: Understanding what is 1 more than a given number up to 10 | Odd sock day—13th Nov<br><br>Children in Need Day—17th November—wear something spotty |
| 3<br>20/11/23 | Space / Neil Armstrong<br><br>What is it like to be in space?<br>Who is Neil Armstrong?<br><br>PPA - Remembrance | Little red riding hood             | z zz qu               | One less: Understanding what is 1 less than a given number up to 10 | Balance Bikes event<br><br>24/11/23   |
| 4<br>27/11/23 | Where have all the dinosaurs gone?   | Little red riding hood             | sh th ng nk           | Number bonds within 5<br><br>Introducing whole part model           |   |
| 5<br>4/12/23  | What were toys like over 100 years ago?  | Goldilocks                         | words ending in s     | Spatial awareness   | 8th Dec—Christmas non uniform day in exchange for donations for the Christmas fayre   |
| 6<br>11/12/23 | How did people wash their clothes over a 100 years ago?<br>How do we wash our                                    | Goldilocks                         | words ending in s /z/ | Counting 6,7 8  | Nativity Performances<br><br>Christmas Fayre—15th Dec                                 |
| 7<br>18/11/23 | Christmas  | Reflect and review                 | review and assess     | Review  | Christmas Party<br><br>Break up on Friday 22nd December 2023.                         |

## Curriculum- What will the children be learning this term?

### Communication and Language:

The children will be introduced to new words related to their learning. They will develop their listening skills and be able to respond relevantly. They will be encouraged to ask questions, clarify their understanding, express their ideas and feelings using full sentences.

Some of the language we will focus on: storytelling, once upon a time, past, present, connectives, words related to our topics

How to support your child at home: Encourage your child to answer questions in full sentences rather than single words. Talk about some of the language we will introduce so that they know what each word means and know how to use it in a sentence.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Through our Jigsaw PSHE programme and Thrive the children will be celebrating differences. They will look carefully at themselves and others both within school, locally and further afield. They will develop their ability to make friends, follow rules and understand why we have rules and how they link to the British values. We will also be looking at different religions, cultures and how they celebrate. The children will further develop their understanding of rights and responsibilities, how to stand up for themselves and say no in certain situations.

How to support your child at home:

Talk to your child about internet safety, what they should do if something pops up on their screen. Monitor your child's use on the internet. Talk about their well being, mental health and play lots of games together to have quality family time daily.

### Physical Development:

We will continue to focus on using scissors correctly and cutting out a range of different shapes. The children will be encouraged to use a range of pens and pencils using the tripod grip. In PE, we will be doing some dance skills, looking at rhythmic movement, balance and co-ordination. We will be introducing ball skills of throwing, catching, rolling, pushing etc

How to support your child at home: Encourage your child to use scissors to cut lines or shapes. Please ask via the home school book if you require any scissor skill support sheets. Encourage your child to hold their pencil in a tripod grip and enjoy mark making. Practise throwing a ball back forth to each other, kicking a ball in a straight line, dribbling with a ball etc

## Maths:

Through the Power Maths scheme the children will continue to work with numbers within 5 and begin to mental recall number bonds to 5. They will then extend their knowledge to 10. They will identify one more and one less without counting and begin to mentally recall number bonds to 10. We will introduce the whole part method of working with numbers which was shared at the information session.

How to support your child at home: Practise counting to 20. Begin to introduce number bonds to 10. A number to 10 is any two numbers that make 10 ie  $6 + 4$ ,  $7 + 3$  etc. Practise writing numbers with correct formation.

## Literacy:

Through our Talk4Writing scheme the children will be learning traditional tales. They will learn the story and then learn parts in detail so that they can verbally retell the story. They will begin to understand story structure, characters, settings and how it can be changed to make a new story.

Phonics—We will continue to follow our 'Little Wandle' scheme and recap sounds, whilst introducing new sounds. We will develop their segmenting and blending skills so that all children are reading word books

How to support your child at home:

Practise the phonic flash cards sent home, blend words together like sat / pat/ hat/ tip / dog/ duck/ mug/ etc and encourage your child to write them independently whilst forming the letters correctly. Use the formation sheets sent home along with the sheet shared via email on formation with the mnemonic picture. A little reading and writing every day will really help support your child.

## Understanding the World:

Our topic this term is 'Time Detectives'. We will be looking at different things that happened in the past and relating them to famous figures like Florence Nightingale and Neil Armstrong. The children will begin to recite some facts about events from the past both within their lives and from before they were born. We will look at countries where some of the events took place. We will also look at the seasons and how the weather is changing from autumn to winter

How to support your child at home:

Talk to your child about how things have changed since you were a child to how things are now. Look at maps of the world and show them any places they or you may have visited. If you haven't been abroad look at a map of the UK and see if they can identify where they live and where someone else in the family lives.



## Expressive Art and Design:

The focus for this term's art will be drawing, the children will look at different artists like Paul Klee, Vincent Van Gogh, David Hockney, and Pablo Picasso. They will be making and describing lines and looking at textures created with lines.

In music they will build up a repertoire of songs linked to our nativity. They will be introduced to some new instruments. They will role play and retell narratives using various props.

### How to support your child at home:

Sing songs together and dance in time to the music. Encourage your child to draw pictures of objects, especially people, thinking about head, facial features, a body, limbs attached to the body etc

## Diwali

On Monday 6th November 2023 the children are invited to come to school dressed in traditional Diwali clothing rather than their uniform. We will be having a Diwali day, where we learn about celebration, taste new foods, learn some Bollywood dancing and make diya lamps.



## Grandparents and Toys

During our topic week on Toys in the past, we would like to invite a few grandparents to come into school and show the children a toy that they had when they were young. This would be on Monday 4th December 2023 at 2pm. Obviously, we can't have all grandparents but if we could have a few with a variety of toys we would be very grateful. Please let us know if any Grandparents would be available to come to this and what toy they could show. Please let us know via the department email. Please do not be offended if we have to say Thank you but we have enough offers as we don't want to over power the children and keep them sitting for too long listening. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

## Nativity

The children will all take part in our Nativity, which we will then perform to parents on Tuesday 12th Dec in the afternoon and on Wednesday 13th Dec in the morning. More information about this will be sent nearer the time regarding tickets.

**Forward planning and information**—We request that younger siblings do not attend the performances so that they don't disrupt the children who will have practised and worked really hard to produce this. Also, due to safeguarding and parental requests there will be no photography or videoing allowed during the performances. We will supply the majority of costumes but if we require any extra items we will let you know in plenty of time.



## Sleep

### The Importance of Sleep

Quality sleep is essential for children's growth and development. A decent night's sleep will help with memory, allow them to react more quickly to situations and make them less susceptible to colds and other minor ailments. Sleep deprivation can cause increased hyperactivity, and can lead to difficulties with physical and mental development. Poor sleep habits from an early age can lead to long term sleep problems, which is something we would like to help to avoid. Problems can occur for a whole host of reasons; anxiety, bedtime routine, bedroom environment, feeling hungry/ thirsty, screen time, nightmares or night terrors, sensory difficulties to name a few.

If you are one of the many parents whose child experiences difficulties with their sleep for whatever reason, then the following website could make a world of difference and is worth taking some time to read; <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/> Within this site you will find top tips for a good night's sleep, helpful bedtime routine guides and information about diet and sleep along with other key information. It is highly recommended for all children (and adults too).

## Odd Sock Day

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. Odd Socks Day 2023 will take place on **Monday 13th November**. It is supported by cBeebies presenter & ABA patron Andy Day and his band 'Andy and the Odd Socks'. It is all about spreading kindness and understanding that everyone is unique.

Children are invited to come to school in their normal uniform but wear a pair of odd socks.



## Balance Bike Event

We have the opportunity to take the children to an Erewash School Sport event where the children will take part in a balance bike event. We will travel by coach and it will all take place during the school day.

Further information about this will be sent out nearer the time but this should be a great sporting opportunity for the children.



### Christmas Party

On Monday 18th December 2023 children are invited to come to school in party clothes/ Christmas jumper. Please be mindful of clothing as we will still have lots of activities running during the day including paint!



### Non– uniform Days

When your child comes to school in non uniform please can we ask that you consider the ease of your child getting to the toilet in their clothes, onesies are really tricky for them. Also please no laces unless your child can tie them independently as it is really difficult when we have to keep stopping teaching to tie laces.

Thank you in advance



### **NUT ALLERGIES**

We have children in school who could have an anaphylactic reaction if exposed to nuts or nut traces. Please only send your child to school with packed lunches that do not contain nuts or products containing nut traces. This includes Nuttella and other chocolate spreads/ products that contain nut traces or MAY contain nut traces.

### Important Dates

Start of term—Monday 6th Nov 2023

Odd sock Day—13th Nov 2023

Children in Need—17th Nov 2023

Christmas Jumper Day—Friday 8th December

Nativity Performance— 12th Dec 2023

Nativity performance—13th Dec 2023

Christmas Party— 18th Dec 2023

Break up for Christmas— 22nd Dec 2023

### Christmas Fayre Donations

Reception will be holding the hook a bag stall at the Christmas fayre. We would be grateful for any gift bags plus any items that a child might like to receive such as sweets, chocolate, stationary, bubbles, balls, dolls, books, cars, hair accessories, teddy bear etc



### Reminders

At collection time please only wave to your child once they are at the front of the queue so that we send the children to the correct parent. Safeguarding your children is our priority.

If your child leaves something in school, please wait until we have dismissed all children. This is to prevent children crossing on the steps and struggling to get back into school when there is a queue.