

# Reception Autumn Term

Dear Parents,

We hope that you had an enjoyable half term break and are getting back into the school routine! We just wanted to take this opportunity to update you on a few things that Reception will be doing this half-term.

Our overarching topic for this half-term is 'Autumn/Colour'. This will include hunting for autumnal items, creating a dark corner, fireworks, Diwali, Hanukkah, colour mixing, creating a Post Office and Christmas crafts. We also have our Christmas Play to look forward to. We will start learning the songs very soon!



We have just finished our first phase of phonics which means we will have a 2 week break from sending letter sounds home so that we can consolidate learning and practise putting these sounds together. We will then continue to add sounds to the children's sound books (Monday–Thursday), so please ensure you continue to look at this with your child daily. It would also be useful to keep going over the sounds we have already learnt, practising the letter formation. Knowing their sounds really is the basis of reading and writing and it is very important for the children to become familiar with all of the sounds.

Reading books will continue to be changed on a Monday and Thursday. If you require extra reading books you can help yourself to free-choice reading books on the unit by the classroom door. We have been impressed with the progress your children are making in reading. Keep encouraging them to point to each word and to sound words out that they do not know, as well as use the pictures.

The children are also making progress with high frequency words (little words sent home to go in the purse) and we are very grateful to our parent helpers. These are checked every week by our parent helpers. New words will be sent home when your child is able to read the words confidently. Please make sure you cut up the words and play games with them. If you are unsure of what to do with the words, please refer to the letter we sent out alongside the words or come and ask.

This half term we are sending home 'Home Learning Journals'. Please keep these in book bags so that we can look at them when we need to. They will be collected in each Monday and returned to you on a Tuesday. A sticker will be added each week which shares what we will be learning in Maths throughout the week and possible things you can do to help. We look forward to hearing about what you have been doing!

This half term we will be holding an open afternoon on **Tuesday 27th November at 2.30pm**. You will have the opportunity to look around the classroom, talk to your child about their learning and share your child's Learning Journal.

We will continue to spend a lot of time outside so please ensure your child has lots of warm clothing (coat, hat, gloves). It would also be very useful if they could keep a spare change of clothes at school in case they get muddy, wet or have a toilet accident. This could be tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt, sweatshirt pants and socks. It does not have to be school uniform but it must be named.

Please don't hesitate to pop in or make an appointment to see us if you have any questions or concerns.

Many thanks,

A.Fairbairn and S.Jones