

Reception Year – Term 2 Information

We hope you had an enjoyable autumn break and that you and your child are ready to take on all that is new for this busy and exciting term. Thank you for returning the Leo Learning Journals – they are going to be an absolute delight to read. We truly appreciate the time you took to support your child with their recording. We have been very impressed by the children's acceptance of the new drop-off and pick-up arrangements which really demonstrate their improving levels of independence and resilience to change. They have also adapted to a form of self-registration in the mornings, incorporating selecting their own lunch choice independently. Recently, you may have heard your child talk about 'rolling snack' time; this is yet another opportunity for your child to make an independent, informed decision about when they wish to take their snack and drink break. Throughout the morning, they choose the time that suits them which fits in with their plans for learning. This results in many different combinations of children, socialising together, in a real and contextual manner, just as adults might take their own 'refreshment break'!

As always, do not hesitate to ask any questions you may have. We are in this together!

Our learning this term

We continue to follow your children's interests and promote independence in their learning journey by 'planning in the moment' on a day-to-day basis. Our general routine remains as last term, consisting of short periods of adult-led teaching followed by lengthy child-initiated play opportunities where children can rehearse and put into action their new learning. Adults will interact and engage with the children to scaffold their learning and ensure they are making good progress towards the Early Learning Goals.

This term in particular lends itself well to understanding the reasons behind many celebrations that may be experienced; starting with the Hindu Festival of Light – Diwali, Guy Fawkes and Fireworks night, birthdays, weddings, and culminating in the Christian celebration of Jesus' birth – Christmas. At which point we will have a memorable Nativity to perform for you all!

In regular phonics teaching, children are beginning to blend sounds they have learnt in order to be able to read simple words, such as 'it, at, on, in, cat, sit, pin' etc. Children will continue to have many opportunities to develop their mathematical knowledge and understanding through both their play and adult-led inputs. Using their increasingly secure knowledge of number and the number system, children will begin to explore equivalence using a variety of manipulatives. In addition, children continue to have tennis coaching to support their physical development, a music teacher to scaffold their exploration of rhythm and appreciation of singing and music, and discrete Religious Education to help them begin to learn about the Christian faith.

Key Information

- Your child will soon be coming home with an additional book, selected by an adult, to support their reading development. Please continue to record how well your child interacts with these published texts in the reading record books. These will also be changed by the adults on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and also need to be kept in their book bag and sent into school every day. Do please continue to take as many opportunities as possible to share books with your child, discussing the pictures, predicting possible events and encouraging them to spot familiar words.
- Thank you to those who have already sent in a family photograph. Don't forget, if you are happy for your child to have a family photo displayed in the classroom (no names), then we would much appreciate this.

