

Reception Year – Term 3 Information

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

We hope you were all able to have an enjoyable Christmas break and have had a good start to the New Year. May we take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for the many wonderful gifts, cards and messages you gave to us for Christmas; it was very kind of you. A big thank you also, for all of the positive feedback we received following our two Nativity performances. We were very proud of all of the children, especially as they had to contend with the snow, ice and continued repairs to our classroom in the final week of term too.

Christmas and New Year seem like a distant memory, as our learning for this term is already underway. Our focus is on Traditional Tales and the children have been enjoying the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears this week, particularly when acting out the story and creating their own story maps.

Our learning this term

There have been a few changes to the content of our daily routine, however the format remains broadly the same as before Christmas. In conjunction with our fine motor skills focus during morning activities this half term, Mrs Smith will be focusing her art lessons on elements from the Write Dance program. This is an exciting approach using music and dance to develop the skills needed for writing. If you haven't already done so, please do take a look at our blog on the school website. The musical theme continues with Mrs Brookes every Thursday, as the children will be learning to sing and dance to different musical stories. This week and next week, we will be singing and dancing to the Teddy Bears' Picnic.

P.E. is on a Friday and your child should be wearing their P.E. kit to school. Please refer to previous newsletters for further details. This term, the children will be exploring different ways of balancing. In our R.E. lessons, we will be looking at some new testament stories, thinking about the key question, "What do Christians believe is special about Jesus and the message he brings?"

We continue to teach four new sounds per week in our phonics lessons and the children are working hard to blend these sounds together to read new words and sentences. In Maths, the children will embed their understanding of numbers to 5, including 0, before moving on to exploring numbers from 6 to 8. This half term, we will also be looking at how to combine two groups of objects and find the total.

The bulk of our day, outside of adult input times, is spent interacting and engaging with the children during their "exploring" time, supporting them to use and apply their previously learnt skills.

Key Information

- Reading books should be in your child's bookbag every day. Please record any comments your child makes about either set of books. It would be particularly useful to hear how they are getting on with the book that they read to you, e.g. how independent are they in blending sounds together, which tricky words are they able to read without support, are they remembering repeated words from page to page and beginning to recognise them on sight? Phonics cards based on our learning in class will be sent home in your child's bookbag after they have been taught in school.
- Coats and jumpers – although last week's weather was milder, please continue to support your child to do up the zip on their coat independently. It would also be really helpful if you could work with them to put their jumper the correct way around after they have taken it off, as this makes it so much easier when they need to put it back on again.
- The next two sessions of Forest Schools for Miss. Goddard's class, (RKG) will be on a Tuesday morning, 17th and 31st January. The next two sessions for Mr. Redpath's class (RGR) will be on a Wednesday morning, 18th January and 1st February.