

Reception Weekly Updates.

Week ending 18th October

Wow, what a week we have had! We sang the harvest song beautifully, learnt 4 new sounds and started to blend sounds together to make.

This week, we have started teaching Phase 2 phonics and the children have done a great job at listening and participating, what a good start!

We have taught the phonemes (sounds) s, a, t and p this week. To embed this at home, please ask your children to find, draw or think of words beginning with these sounds and to practice writing them. We have put a big focus on correctly forming the basic letters this week and we will continue to do so with all of the phonemes we teach. Please see phones in book bags -these can be cup up to play games with at home. It is really important that children learn to form the letters correctly at this early stage so we don't negatively impact their continued handwriting progression as they move through the school. Look out for a guide to letter formation in your child's book bag.

There are many things you can do to support this, especially if they are reluctant to put pen to paper. Remember, at this stage there is no need to produce small letters on paper- some children are not ready for this yet. Feel free to find your own inventive ways to practice at home....

- Form letters in sand
- Use a paint brush and water to write outside
- Chalk on the floor
- Paint letters on large sheets of paper
- Form the letters in the air using your finger
- Use your finger to 'write' the letter on somebody else's back

Maths

This week we have learnt the numbers 4 and 5. We have been learning to recognise them, count up to this number of items and count out this number of items from a larger group. We have spent the week really concentrating on the children's understanding of these first 5 numbers. We are finding that lots of children can recognise the number but when asked to represent this number, they find it tricky. It is crucial that the children have a deep understanding of the quantity of number before we move on. Please take the time to practice at home; this doesn't have to just be counting objects, it could be counting skips, jumps, trees, houses ect.

Ideas: How many can you see? What if there was one more? What if I took one away?

Can you do 5 hops and 5 jumps?

General reminders

A gentle reminder that we now have P.E on Friday morning and Friday afternoon, so to maximise learning time we have decided that the children will have the opportunity to go home in their P.E kits. Can we ask that all children have named tracksuit bottoms as the weather begins to get cooler. We will ensure that the children have these on in order to walk home. If you have any issues with this then please contact your child's class teacher.

Lots of children have been requesting milk at snack time but unfortunately, we cannot provide them with milk if you haven't registered for it. The children receive free milk up until the age of 5, so it is worth doing. If you can't find the milk scheme form in your starter pack, please ask at reception. When your child is about to have their 5th birthday we recommend that you check with your child's class teacher as to whether they should continue.

Books

Please look out for information, usernames and passwords for Bug Club. This is a reading programme that we use to help promote a love of reading and to allow you to always have access to books at home. It is an online programme so please let us know if you have trouble accessing this at home. We have sent details out this week (they are located in the front of your children's Home School diaries) in hope that you take a look and read some of the wordless books we have assigned to your child. If you are thinking that this system will replace 'real' books, do not worry. Once we have taught enough phonics and encouraged your child to start blending, the children will be ready to bring home books with words in them. **This will run alongside Bug Club.** Children in reception are all different abilities and every child is ready to begin reading at different times. If we expect children to be reading before they are ready, it may discourage them and take away the love of reading. If your child sees reading as a chore it will dramatically hinder their progress. If your child does not want to read, they will not learn successfully and we want to give them the right starting point. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Please remember to write in your child's reading diary and put it back in the bookbag so we can read at school too.

Dates for your diary

Hand Wash talk led by the school nursing team – Thursday 24th October

Last day of half term – Friday 25th October

Inset day – Monday 4th November

Back to school – Tuesday 5th November

Happy Bag Collection – 8th November

Autumn Parents Evening – Wednesday 20th November & Thursday 21st November – More information to follow regarding booking.

Year R, 1 2 & 3 – Flu Vaccinations – Thursday 15th November

Nativity Dress Rehearsal (SCHOOL ONLY) – Monday 16th December

Year R Nativity – Tuesday 17th December (10:00am) and Wednesday 18th December (10:00am)

Year R Christmas Disco – Wednesday 18th December (2:00pm – 3:00pm)

Christmas lunch – Thursday 19th December

Last day of school – Friday 20th December

Thank you for all for your support.

The Year R Team

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| Mrs Cook Head of Year R | Mrs Brown Year R Teacher | Miss Gill Year R Teacher | Miss Ellis Professional Teaching Partner | Miss Lee Professional Teaching Partner |
| Hedgehogs | Hedgehogs | Ladybirds | Ladybirds | Ladybirds |



Executive Headmaster: John DF Martin MA Deputy Headteacher: Ms R Willmouth MSc
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