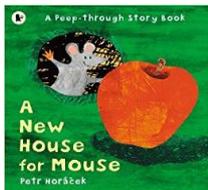


# Reception Newsletter

Welcome to Godley Community Primary Academy!  
We hope you have had a lovely summer!

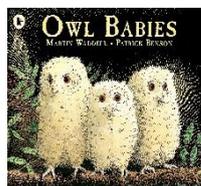
Our key high-quality texts  
this half term



A New House  
for Mouse  
By Petr Horacek

Owl Babies

By Martin Waddell



## Phonics & Group Reading

At Godley we follow the Monster Phonics scheme of learning for introducing letters and sounds. This half term we will be introducing the children to phase 2 phonics and learning some letter sounds. We will be learning to recognise the letters of the alphabet by sight and sound and we will be also learning the correct letter formations. This will enable the children to learn to read, write and spell short words containing these sounds, which we call CVC words, later in the term. We will also be encouraging the children to recognise familiar words such as their own name. We will be engaging in small group guided reading sessions to develop the children's understanding and comprehension of different stories and books. We will be discussing characters, settings and events of the stories and beginning to develop our own opinions!

## Literacy

This half term our Literacy sessions will be largely focused around speaking and listening skills and joining in with stories and rhymes. We will be initially focusing on a key high quality text, 'A New House for Mouse', as the stimulus for our learning, followed by 'Owl Babies' later in the half term. We will be following the journey of the main character, Mouse, and investigating how she can solve the problem within the story. We will be using this text to develop our own viewpoints and ideas, and practise sharing our ideas with others. We will be beginning to ask questions of others and working hard to take turns when speaking and listening to other people's ideas.

## Sound Cards & Reading Books

Your child will receive a plastic reading wallet in their bookbag in the coming weeks. These reading wallets will be used to safely transport reading and phonics materials for your child to practise at home and to reduce wear and tear on our school reading books. Please keep any resources sent home from school in these wallets for ease of use for you at home and for us to add to or change the resources efficiently. As we learn new sounds and key words each week, we will be sending home flashcards for each letter and word. We appreciate your support in practising the recognition of these sounds at home. Later in the half term your child will receive a weekly school reading book to bring home and share with you. Our Monster Phonics reading books have text for an adult to read aloud and some shorter words, captions and sentences for your child to read aloud to you. We will read on a 1:1 basis with your child each week, developing awareness of sounds, blending skills and comprehension. Please let us know how your child has found their reading book each week using the reading record sheet that will be in your child's reading wallet!

### Numeracy

This half term we will be developing our understanding of numbers and what they represent. We will be focusing on the concepts of matching and sorting, more and less and developing our understanding of the numbers 1, 2 and 3. We will be practising representing numbers in different ways, exploring how numbers 1, 2 and 3 are composed and looking for how numbers are used within the environment. We will be developing our understanding of patterns and making comparisons between size, mass and capacity. We will also be thinking about which numbers are important to us and why!

### General Information

- \* We request that the children bring and keep wellies in school so that they can take part in outdoor learning each day. We go outside in all weathers so wellies are essential to keep your child clean and dry and protect school shoes from unnecessary wear and tear. Please ensure your child's wellies are labelled with their name.
- \* PE kits should be kept in school all week but our set PE day is Tuesday. They will be sent home regularly for washing at half term.
- \* All footwear, coats and clothing must be clearly labelled with your child's name. Please check this regularly as ink does fade with washing.
- \* The children will all get a piece of fruit each day so they will not need to bring their own snack. Please can you send a clearly labelled water bottle into school for your child to access the water fountain with each day. These water bottles will be sent home every day.
- \* Milk is provided by the government up to the age of 5. Once your child has turned 5, you can choose to pay for your child to continue to receive milk each day. Details of this are available in the school office.
- \* All communication will take place via Class Dojo.
- \* If a different person is coming to collect your child, please send a message via Class Dojo or let us know in the morning so we can make sure they are dismissed safely to the correct person. We will not be able to dismiss your child to any person other than parents or guardians unless consent has been given by yourselves.
- \* Your child will be able to choose a library book every Friday from our reading den to bring home and share. Your child will need to bring their library book every Friday to be returned so they can choose a new one.
- \* Please bring your child's Godley Primary Academy bookbag to school each day. The children do not need to bring an additional school bag.
- \* If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff!

### Fine Motor Skills & Writing

This half term we are beginning the writing process by developing our fine motor skills and control over small tools. We will be using a range of resources such as lego, playdough, beads and thread, jigsaws and tweezers to develop the strength and dexterity of our hands, in order to prepare the children for early writing. We will be encouraging the children to develop a comfortable and secure 'tripod' grip when holding their pencil, and practising different movements and shapes when drawing and writing. This half term we will be beginning to model the correct formations of the letters we are learning in Phonics and encouraging the children to develop these formations in their own writing. We will be encouraging the children to mark make and write for purposes that are meaningful to them and develop confidence in writing independently.

### Wider Curriculum

We will be using our key text as a stimulus to explore and share about our own lives and the lives of others, including places we live, foods we like to eat and our favourite animals. We will be investigating woodland creatures and their habitats, engaging in creative activities linked to animals and foods, and working together to build and construct houses and homes! We will be exploring the concept of nocturnal animals and thinking about seasonal change too!

### Class Targets

- \* to get dressed and undressed independently.
- \* to recognise and write our name.
- \* to share stories and talk about what is happening and who the story is about

Thank you for your support in settling the children into school!

Mrs Gates, Miss Daniels & Miss Moody