Autumn 2 2021 – Foundation Stage Curriculum Newsletter.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here is an overview of what your child will be learning this half term across the different areas of learning. Our topic for the second half of the Autumn term is called 'I wonder who is awake when I am asleep?'. The topics we choose are led by the children's interests and usually encompass several areas of learning. For this reason, the topics may change to reflect the direction the children wish to take their learning.

Each week we will be taking on a different theme using the following books as part of our week's main focus:



In **Literacy** this half term we will be listening to stories by a variety of authors. These include *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell, *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson and *Peace at Last* by Jill Murphy. The Gruffalo will inspire our visit to Salcey Forest, and we will be learning about nocturnal animals when we read Night Monkey Day Monkey.

We will be continuing to learn new sounds through daily phonics sessions. Then using our phonic knowledge to blend simple words and write simple words. Throughout the half term we will be continuing to develop listening and communication skills.

This half term in **Mathematics** the children will be developing their understanding of numbers up to 5. We will be looking at the cardinality of numbers by matching the digits to a number of objects and practicing writing the digits. We will be subitizing, where the children match digits to amounts without the need to count them. We will be using five frames to record amounts. We will be talking about the 2d shapes circles, triangles and squares.

We will have a weekly circle time to encourage the children to talk about their thoughts and feelings as part of our **Personal**, **Social and Emotional Development**. This half term our focus will be to recognise our feelings and what makes us worried or scared, relating to the mouse in The Gruffalo. We will talk about day and night time routines. We will also be learning how to continue to manage our own needs e.g. by using the toilet independently, washing hands, managing our fruit snacks and lunchboxes and using cutlery for our hot dinners.



Through our 'I wonder who is awake when I am asleep?' topic, we will use our Understanding of the World to identify animals that are nocturnal and those that are diurnal. We will be finding out about nocturnal animals through information books, discussions and interactive resources. We will be creating habitats for small animals to

live in, such as a nest for an owl and a mouse. We will learning why some people celebrate Diwali and talk about our own family traditions at Christmas and those from around the world.



In our **Physical Development** we will continue to practice fine motor and pencil skills. We will use a variety of resources such as construction equipment and malleable materials to develop increasing physical control.

During our PE lessons we will continue to develop the ability to move with good control and coordination in large and small movements.

In our **Expressive Arts and Design** we will be working with a variety of media, experimenting with colour, design and texture. We will be making collage owls, a blanket for daddy bear and a clay diya lamp to name but a few! We will be participating in a variety of Christmas crafts and learning lots of Christmas songs!



This half term is all about maintaining the routines and continuing to develop the relationships with both adults and peers within the school community.

We will continue to send home a library book to share with your child as well as a reading book for your child to tell you a story using the pictures as a stimulus and recognising the words too. We will include a sticker in your child's Home School Book giving a brief outline of the activities that will be coming up each week.

Please check the Home School Books daily and please use them to communicate with us or email us on

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We will respond to emails as soon as we can. If you have any questions or need any support or advice please do not wait until parents evening to discuss anything with us!

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your child.

The Foundation Stage team