

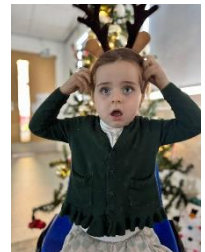
# Autumn Term

## Class Welcome

We are delighted to share our first newsletter of the term and extend a warm welcome to all our new families. We could not be prouder of how beautifully the children have settled into their new Reception class. They have shown confidence, curiosity, and kindness from the very first day, and it has been a joy to watch them grow.

This term, the children have been busy exploring our wonderful new sensory spaces, discovering different textures, lights, and sounds through play. We also enjoyed our first visits to the swimming pool, where the children showed fantastic enthusiasm and growing independence in the water.

We've had a colourful and exciting term filled with celebrations and special events. The children took part in Children in Need, proudly wore their odd socks for Anti-Bullying Week, and enjoyed learning about the magic and safety of fireworks. We also shared lots of spooky fun for Halloween and took time for thoughtful reflection on Remembrance Day.



## Communication and interaction

Blossom Class have been working on a range of early learning and communication skills. The children have been exploring mark making using a variety of tools and grips, helping them develop strength, control, and confidence in their pre-writing movements. They have also been looking at letter shapes and sounds, building their awareness of the alphabet through multisensory activities and playful phonics exploration.

In addition, the children have been practising their communication skills using PECS, making choices, expressing needs, and engaging more independently during daily routines. We have also been focusing on early reading skills, such as matching pictures to words, recognising familiar symbols, and joining in with shared stories.



## Cognition and Learning

This term in maths, we have been exploring early number and shape concepts through a range of hands-on activities. We have practised shape sorting by identifying and grouping shapes based on their features. Using sand and diggers, we have explored ideas of more and less, comparing different amounts in a practical and engaging way. We have also developed problem-solving and fine-motor skills by stacking cups and rings, noticing patterns and sizes as we built. Throughout the term, we have continued to strengthen our number recognition, learning to identify numbers and link them to real quantities.



## Independence, social and emotional development

Over the term, we have been developing a wide range of practical and wellbeing skills. In food tech, we have focused on baking, practising safe and effective cutting techniques, and learning how to measure ingredients accurately to follow recipes with confidence. Alongside these practical skills, we have also explored self-soothing strategies and self-regulation techniques to help manage emotions and maintain a sense of calm. Additionally, we have been introduced to reflexology, gaining an understanding of how simple pressure-point techniques can support relaxation and overall wellbeing. Together, these experiences have helped build both practical independence and emotional resilience.



## Physical and Sensory

This term, we have been learning to move more independently in the swimming pool by practising our walking skills, kicking our legs, and using noodles as floating aids. The children have shown growing confidence in the water as they explore these new skills. In PE, we have also loved exploring a range of equipment, including tunnels, beams, and balls, which has helped us develop our balance, coordination, and physical confidence.



## Special news and upcoming events

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Merit awards and craft afternoon

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – End of term (Early finish for pupils)

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Start of Spring Term

16<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term

Next term our topic is 'David Walliams'.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break, and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

From The Blossom Team, Daisy, Molly, Elena & Carly.