



# Little Gems Class Newsletter

Working together to

*inspire nurture empower*

**Autumn 2 – November 2025**

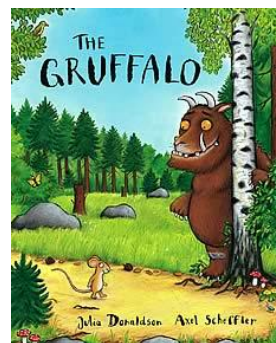
## Welcome Back & Updates

Hello Little Gems Families and welcome back after the autumn break!

This half term we are doing the story 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson.

Just a reminder again that If you have any updates or changes with regards to your child (no matter how big or small!), please inform us as soon as possible, either in their school diary, ring the school if you need to speak to someone or email me at

[ruby.rogers@ivy.set.org](mailto:ruby.rogers@ivy.set.org)



## Key Concepts and Skills

In Little Gems Class, we follow the Early Years Framework which has 7 subject areas, Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Literacy, Maths (Cognition), Expressive Arts and Understanding the World. Your children will experience a wide variety of lessons and activities which cover these areas. This half term, our topic is "The Gruffalo".

**Please remember to look at Evidence for Learning to see what your child is learning at school!**

## Reminders / additional information



If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use our ParentPay app to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

This half term our hydro days are **Monday** and **Thursday** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space, please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo. Please remember to send in a change of clothes for your child each day, thank you.



## Cognition and Maths

Use switch-activated devices to trigger Gruffalo sounds (growl, stomp). Encourage your child to press to make something happen.



## PSED



Host a Gruffalo relaxation session: Play woodland sounds, dim lights, use lavender scent ("deep dark wood"), and soft textures for calm exploration. You could use some massage techniques, too.



## Communication

For Communication you could make a create multi-sensory version of *The Gruffalo*. Include: Fur (soft fabric) for the Gruffalo's coat, scratchy pinecones for the forest floor, a damp cloth for the "deep, dark wood", orange peel (Gruffalo's eyes), jelly sweets or rubber for "wobbly knees"



## Understanding the World

You could make a woodland exploration tray! A tuff tray with leaves, bark, pinecones, moss, and toy animals. Explore textures, smells, and temperatures while relating them to the story.



## Literacy

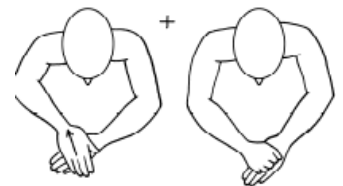
On a Monday morning, we visit our onsite train library, where your child will choose a book to take home that week and read at home. Please return your child's book bag, reading log and library book every Monday and will swap it.



## Makaton Signs



winter



Christmas