



Opal Class Autumn Term One Newsletter

It has been a pleasure welcoming all of our new children into school this week. It has been lovely to see them making new friends and getting to know the classroom and the rest of school. We have already spent lots of time playing, singing and reading stories.

Our theme this half term is All about me!



We will be getting to know each other, finding out what we like and dislike and learning about our families. We will be learning about people who help us in the community and the jobs that they do. We will be deciding our class rules and getting used to new school routines.

RE

This half term in RE we will be learning about Harvest. We will be reading the story of creation and finding out about the things that Christians believe God made. We will also be learning about Sukkot, the Jewish celebration of Harvest.

Key Questions

Why is it important to say thank you?
Why do we say thank you to God at Harvest time?
Can you think of a way to give thanks to God for his creation and the harvest?
Why is it important to help others?
What are your favourite foods and why do you enjoy them?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be talking about what we are good at and what we like doing. We will be creating our class rules and thinking about how we can have kind hands, kind feet and kind words. Our Gospel value across school, this half term, is friendship. We will be reading stories from the Bible that teach us about friendship.

Physical Development

PE will be every Friday but this might change depending on other activities we are doing in class.

Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school everyday.

Children can wear a white t-shirt, black leggings/joggers or burgundy shorts, a black hoodie/jumper or their school jumper/cardigan. They can wear trainers for PE but please ensure they are velcro fastening if they are not able to tie laces.

Please make sure all items of clothing have name labels.

Forest School

We will have a forest school session every Wednesday afternoon this half term. Please ensure your child has welly boots and a waterproof suit or a change of clothes in school on this day.

There is a chance your child will get wet/muddy during the session so please send in a change of socks.

Communication and Language

We will be practising talk routines throughout the day, for example; Good morning, how are you? What did you have for lunch? What are you doing after school?

We will be singing nursery rhymes and putting actions to them. We will be reading and retelling stories using actions and puppets.

Literacy - Reading

We will be starting with Phase One phonics where we will be listening for sounds in words and in the environment.

We will be reading lots of familiar books and looking at books about families. The children will be bringing home their first reading books. These are wordless books and are used to help children become familiar with handling books independently and using the pictures as clues to tell the story.



Literacy - Writing

We will be mark making patterns, pictures and letters. The children will be practising writing their names and forming letters correctly, in the correct direction and from the correct starting point. We will be starting dough disco to help strengthen the finger muscles to help with pencil grip and we will also be doing lots of activities that involve threading, pinching and squeezing.



We will be singing lots of counting songs and using objects to visualise the song. We will be sorting, grouping and ordering objects. We will be making and talking about patterns. We will be learning about numbers 1, 2 and 3 and starting to solve problems using them.

Understanding the World

We will be learning about our families and talking about who is part of our family and why they are important to us. We will be reading stories about families and saying how they are similar to our own. We will be thinking about our birthdays and how we have gotten older. We will be learning about the past and how things have changed over the years looking at toys and objects from the past.





Expressive Art and Design

We will be giving the children opportunities to join in with songs and role play. They will be

experimenting with mixing colours and junk modelling. We will be painting self-portraits and pictures of our families. We will be exploring instruments and tapping out simple rhythms.

Home-School Partnership

Things to remember to bring to school every day

Book bag, reading record and book, water bottle and a change of clothes (where needed).

Daily Home Learning

School reading book to be read every night and journal signed by an adult.

And finally ... The education of your child is a partnership between you and us. Please contact us if you have any worries or concerns about your child or feel there is something we need to be aware of.

If you cannot see us at school, we can be contacted via the school office.

Here's to a great half term!
Mrs Fisher