



# Reception Newsflash



Friday 17th November 2023

## Reception Weekly News

Thank you to all the parents who attended Parents' evening, it was so lovely to share how well your children have settled and how much they have progressed in such a short time. It was wonderful to welcome you into our learning environment and hear from you how much children are enjoying their new school life. We shared with some parents how to use Bug Club effectively for reading at home. If this is something that anyone needs any additional support with, please do come and speak to us and we can help solve any technical issues or any other problems you might be having.

This week Christmas has arrived in Reception! Although it is only November we have been learning about the Christmas Story so that we can start practising for our Christmas Play. The children and staff are all very excited to perform for you.



Over the last few weeks we have been looking at ways to keep healthy, we have talked about brushing our teeth, why we do this and how to protect our teeth from cavities. We have also read the story 'Purple gets Poorly' in our PSHE sessions. We have talked about what we do and who helps us if we are feeling poorly.

On Friday we all wore something spotty and enjoyed some spotty activities in class. We also learnt all about how it is important to help others in assembly ... what a lovely end to the week.

## HOMWORK CHALLENGE

This half term our PE focus is 'Fine Motor', this is so that we can strengthen our hands and fingers ready for writing. This week we have been making bird feeders in class so that the birds don't go hungry this winter. This has also given us the opportunity to practise our threading skills. We would like to challenge children to complete a fine motor activity at home with their grown up's this week. This could be threading pasta onto a string, threading large buttons or spools onto a string, piercing a hole into autumn leaves and threading onto string to make a nature necklace or making an edible necklace using cereal hoops.

## HouseKeeping

### School Gates

As we are moving further into the half term and the children are now settled really well, we are asking parents to **drop children at the second gate** just before coming onto the playground where staff will be positioned. Parents can then leave to get other children to school or get to work staff will support and ensure children walk into school safely. This is inline with the rest of the school and good preparation for when the children move to Year 1 next year.

We will be opening our **school gates five minutes earlier at 8:40am** to support parents with drop off. **Gates will be closed promptly at 8:50am** and any children who arrive at the gate after this time will have to go to the office.

Our official school day start time is 8.50am, therefore this is when registration is complete and our phonics lessons start in order to maximise learning time for your child. All gates will be locked

promptly to allow staff who are supervising on the gates need to back into class to support children with their learning in class as lessons start at 8.50am.

### **Home Reading**

Thank you to all the families who are continuing to read each night at home. We can really see the benefit of this on your children. We have some children who have already read 21 times and have already achieved their golden ticket! Keep up the hard work at home... If you have't achieved this target don't worry, you still have a few left to achieve the target of 21 reads by the end of the half term.

Just to remind you...

**Only reading of Phonics Bug Book on Bug Club count towards the Golden Tickets.** Children should be reading the same book **at least three times a week**. Teachers will also write in diaries on a weekly basis when we have read with your child in school.

We have already learnt the following sounds: s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, e, u and r.

**Reading diaries** need to come to school **every day** so that we can count and number the home reads and give children their home reading dojo rewards.

Please still continue to read library books to your child. Bedtime stories are a great way to do this and great a love of stories and reading. Read a wide range of books as this helps develop your child's vocabulary. But do not worry about writing this in the reading diary. Together, we can support your child to read! Thank you for your continued support 😊

### **Christmas play**

Some children will have words to learn for the Christmas play that we have sent home. Encourage your children to talk slowly, loudly and clearly. Maybe you would like to stand at one side of the room or garden and encourage children to say their lines loud and clear from the other side of the room/garden. We cant wait to see what you can do!

### **Dressing**

Please can you practise dressing and undressing this weekend and ensuring we can look after our belongings. This will also be a real benefit in forest school with all of the coats hats and scarves as the weather is getting colder. **Please can you make sure ALL items of clothing are clearly named.**

### **Library books**

Children should return and exchange library books on a **Friday**. Please have a hunt at home, on bookshelves etc to see if you have any school books hiding that need returning to school.

### **Water bottles**

Please can we ask that water bottles are not brought into school in book bags as sometimes they are leaking, spoiling books and reading diaries. Many thanks for your support.

### Forest School

Unfortunately due to the increasing number of storms and some amber weather warnings we have not been able to take the children out to forest school as often as we had planned this half term. Our main priority is always the safety of our children and although it can be disappointing, we would not put any children at risk.

This week, we are going to try a different approach to beat the weather. We would like **all children from every class (1, 2 and 3) to bring in their forest school kit on Monday** and we will keep the kit in school for the whole week. **If you could also include a pair of tracksuit bottoms or leggings in their bag, when children are taking part in their session**, we will give children a chance to put these on under there Forest School. We will take them out to Forest School at some point throughout the week when the weather allows. This week we will be doing some tree planting as well as using the forest school site for some other winter activities. **We shall send kit home throughout the week once the children have had their turn in forest school.**

If you are concerned on colder days about your child's warmth, please put another layer in their bag ie thicker socks or a fleece, as it is easy to remove layers once out in the Forest School.

Please could all Forest School Kit listed above come in to school in a separate bag, **(pump bag, back pack)** which is **ALL** clearly named. This makes it easier when we are trying to get children changed. Thank you 😊

### Dates for your diaries

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November** – Muffi day for a chocolate donation- for our Christmas Bingo

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** – Team Around the School Drop ins for any families that may want a little more help

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** - Fofis Christmas Bingo – Eyes down 6.30pm- doors open 6pm

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December**- Christmas dinner (please make sure you have booked on Parent App)

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December** – Santa Day

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>/ Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - Reception Christmas Performance 2:30pm

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**- Christmas Disco- 4.30pm-5:30pm or 6pm-7pm

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas party day