

 **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Diary Dates:

- **November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>**- Opportunity for Parents to observe a phonics lesson- there will be a sign-up sheets put out in classrooms and the sessions will be between 9.05-9.30 each day. Please note that pre-schoolers are not able to join in with these sessions.
  - **November 9<sup>th</sup>**- Reception 'Tabby McTat' theatre visit to the Curve Theatre, Leicester - A reminder that we will be returning slightly later than normal. Approximate time is 4:10pm
  - **November 12<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup> November**-Reading week
  - **November 12<sup>th</sup>**- Anti bullying week- Odd Socks Day
  - **November 15<sup>th</sup>**- Reception Diwali morning activities in School Hall
  - **November 16<sup>th</sup>** - Children in need mufti (Spots and/or Yellow)
  - **November 16<sup>th</sup>**- Desborough Library visits- 10am Rockets, 10.30am Astronauts, 11am Sparklers
  - **November 30<sup>th</sup>** - School Community open day - 9:30am - 11:30am and 1.45pm-3pm
  - **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Zip week
  - **December 17<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Performance-afternoon
  - **December 18<sup>th</sup>** -Christmas Performance-morning
  - **December 21<sup>st</sup>**- Last day of term. Christmas parties- come in party clothes
  - **January 7<sup>th</sup> 2019** - **SCHOOL REOPENS AFTER CHRISTMAS**
- We would like to thank all the children and parents who have looked after our class teddy bears last half term. The photos, drawings and independent writing about their adventures are lovely to look at. If your child has not had this experience yet, they will do so before the end of the school year.
  - As the weather is changing please make sure your child comes with suitable clothing including a warm coat, a hat, gloves and a scarf. If your child doesn't already have an additional raincoat in school please can they come in ASAP so the children can access the outdoor areas freely. PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS NAMED.
  - This half term we will be introducing a 'morning activity'. These will start from **5<sup>th</sup> November** and will work as follows:
    - MONDAY:** Literacy based activity at their animal group tables (*Please help your child find their folder and settle them on the activity*)
    - TUESDAY:** Whole school reading morning - all parents are welcome to stay until 9am
    - WEDNESDAY:** Reading (independently)
    - THURSDAY:** Numeracy based activity at their animal group tables (*Please help your child find their folder and settle them on the activity*)
    - FRIDAY:** Reading (independently)

- One of the underpinning values of the Foundation Stage curriculum is independence. To encourage this we are going to have a 'Zip Week' this half term. We will be giving out stickers to all those children who manage to do their zips up on their coats. Please get practising at home. **Zip week will be the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018.**
- Just to remind you that if your child needs to change their reading book please make a comment in their home/school link book, and then place the reading book inside their home/school link book. Leave it in the cream box in your child's classroom. **We will only change books if they have been placed in the cream box and you have noted that the book has been read twice.**
- All the children in Yr R do PE on Mondays and Thursdays. Please make sure your child is wearing clothes they can manage independently on both days and that **ALL** jewellery is removed before your child comes to school. Please make sure all of your child's clothing is clearly labelled. We have got a build-up of lost property of things that are not named so we cannot return them. If your child has lost anything please have a look in the lost property box in the Hall by asking at the office.
- Open day is on the **30<sup>th</sup> November 2018**. Please come and enjoy the fun things that go on around school during the day. School will be open for you to visit between 9:30am & 11:30am and then between 1.45pm & 3pm. Please note that before taking your child from their classroom there will be a short activity to complete together and you will then collect a raffle ticket for one free entry to the draw.
- We will be planning our Christmas Nativity concert over the next few weeks. Please watch your child's book bag for further details about parts, costumes, words & tickets. Performance dates are **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2.15pm and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 10am**. There is an allocation of 2 tickets per family allowed and information about how to get tickets will be given later in the term.
- To help your child recognise their book bag it would be really helpful if you could attach a key ring or something that your child will recognise.
- If you have children in Year 1 or 2 and Reception, please take both children to the Reception door in the morning and say good bye to the Year 1 and/or Year 2 child at the top of the ramp so they can take themselves through school to their classroom.
- If you need help at home to support your child, we have a range of school made you tube clips covering a variety of themes for example, letter sounds and their actions. These are in the 'Weblinks and learning at home' section from the parents menu. If you are looking for the letter sounds and actions they are in 'Key stage One Literacy'. Please let us know if there is anything else you would like a support clip for.
- We will keep you informed of dates and events in school in a variety of ways. Please take care to check: Our website, whole school newsletters, Foundation Stage newsletters, the whiteboard at the top of the glass corridor, the notice boards outside the office and in the FS waiting area and text messages. Please make sure you check on a regular basis to keep up-to-date with what's going on.

Thank you for your Support – ***The Foundation Stage Team***

# Foundation Stage Newsletter - Autumn 2

## Personal, Social & Emotional development

We will be talking about our friends and family and how we get on and how we make up if we fall out. We will also be thinking about special times, the kind of things we do and how they make us feel. We have now started sending Teddy home and the Family box with the child of the week. Please take some time to help your child fill in the diary – pictures, leaflets, photographs or some writing are always welcome.

### **AT HOME**

- Chat about ways of resolving conflicts in a friendly way. Encourage your child to always tell an adult if something is going on.



## Physical Development

Our PE will focus on dynamic balance and agility this half term.

We will continue to practise using scissors and a pencil with increased control.

### **AT HOME**

- Help your child to use scissors - remembering to encourage them to always have their thumb pointing to the ceiling

## Expressive Arts and Design

We will be using different materials such as clay to make lamps. We will be printing wrapping paper and making Christmas decorations.

Music will focus on structure and how songs have different layers. We will also be practising for our Christmas play.

### **AT HOME**

- Listen to different styles of music and talk about whether the instruments are loud or quiet (Classical music is useful for this).

## Communication and Language

### Literacy

We have nearly covered all the letter sounds individually and we are going to continue working on our phonics. We will start building simple 2 and 3 letter words listening carefully for each sound. We will also be looking at poems that use alliteration (e.g. big blue balloons) and rhyming words.

### **AT HOME**

- Practise sound talking simple words. This means breaking down the individual sounds in words & saying them out loud e.g. c – a – t or c – oa – t or tr - ee

### ***Let's Celebrate!***

What kinds of things do people celebrate? How do they celebrate special events in the year? Do people have special traditions at celebration times?

This Half term we will spend time looking at different celebrations and who celebrates them.



## Mathematics

We will continue to spend time singing number songs, counting out objects, looking at 'more' and 'less' and ordering numbers. We will also be using scales to weigh objects.

### **AT HOME**

- Play simple board games together looking carefully at the order of the numbers. Encourage them to say which number comes next & which



## Understanding the world

As this half term is all about special times we are going to be finding out about different times that are important to us. We will be finding out about the festival of Diwali and looking at how Hindus celebrate this festival. We are going to spend time investigating light and dark, using torches, making shadows and mixing colours.

### **AT HOME**

- Find out together about different celebrations & the kinds of things people do to celebrate.

### **This Term's Value:**

As a school, we will be reflecting on the value of cooperation.