

A big welcome to our new children and parents of Wren class. We are so looking forward to getting to know you all in what is always a busy but exciting first term! This newsletter outlines some important information to remember this term as well as the topics and learning that the children will be covering.

Reading

The most valuable contribution you can make to your child's early education is to read to them and with them at home. Over the first term we will be sharing a wide range of story books with the children and we hope that you will continue to do this at home. From the first week the children will bring a book home with them; at first this will be a picture book without words to encourage your child to speak to you about what they see and feel is happening on each page. You can help them by asking questions and offering suggestions about what you see too. We will also send a story book of their choice for you to read to them. Again, fuel their enthusiasm by asking them questions about how they feel the characters may be feeling or about what they think might happen next.

Through our phonics teaching, your child will develop confidence in blending and segmenting words as well as building up their sound knowledge. As the children are introduced to new sounds, they will begin to bring home books which they can read to you. These reading books will only ever feature sounds that the children have been exposed to at school to enable them to practice with you at home and gain in confidence. We will also send home some 'trick' words as children are taught them at school. These are 'tricky' words which are not phonetically decodable and so need some extra practice!

Please record any reading at home in your child's reading records and ensure that this is packed daily in their book bags. In class we aim to hear Reception children read every other day where possible and we will offer feedback in their reading logs.

English

This term we will be reading a variety of story books and also introducing them to non-fiction books. They will build and develop their listening and role-playing skills within English and then will begin to write words and captions in line with their phonics knowledge.

Maths

Our Maths topics this term include pattern matching, sorting, comparing quantities and representing the numbers 1,2 and 3. Our Maths lessons are mainly practical and children will have various opportunities to secure their learning through play in our outdoor area. Please see the school website for the termly KIRFS (Key Instant Recall Facts) which provide ideas for ways to support your child's Maths at home.

Science

This term's Science topic is 'Who am I?' and will give children the opportunity to get to know the human body whilst exploring the five senses.

Geography

This term our topic is Seasons. Children will observe, discuss and predict the weather as well as learning about the different Seasons.

Forest School

Forest School takes place with Miss Law on a Friday morning in the school grounds and gives children an opportunity to explore the world around them and begin to understand some of the natural processes that take place everyday. We provide waterproof trousers for children to wear over their uniform but please ensure children have wellies with them in school. If you wish you may provide your child with a top to change into and as the weather gets colder please ensure they have an old coat for Forest School.

PE

Wrens take part in two hours of PE a week with Miss Cole. This term PE will be on a Thursday morning and Friday afternoon and children will take part in hockey and multi sports. Children will need to bring in their PE kits ready to get changed at school.

Art and Design

Mrs Russell will take lead Art and Design on a Friday afternoon this term. Children will be making windmills using axles, washers and levels.

RE

Our question this term is 'Who do Christians say created the world?' Children will learn about the creation story and will also take part in activities for our Harvest festival.

Homework

Children will have access to a Mathletics account which they can log onto to complete Maths activities at home. Those who complete work at home may achieve a certificate in our celebration assemblies. Logins can be found in your child's reading records.

The main homework we ask of our Reception children is that they read as often as possible at home. Our minimum expectation would be for children to read at home three times a week.

I hope you and your children settle into school life and have an enjoyable first term with us. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions you have after school or you can book an appointment with me through the school office.

Mrs Pressman