



Uffculme Primary School

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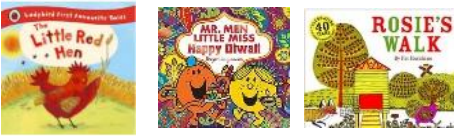
AUTUMN 2nd 2023 CLASS NEWSLETTER

November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Reception,

We hope you all had a lovely half term. We have written this newsletter to give you further information on the expectations and routines in Reception this half term.

Our current topic for this half term is 'Light and Dark and Let's Celebrate'. We are learning:

Area of learning	What we hope to find out and learn
Communication and Language	Engaging in regular story times and non-fiction books by following along and joining in. Re-telling familiar stories with the use of puppets and story props. Developing talking about own experiences and learning new vocabulary. Learning rhymes and poems
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Practising turn taking and sharing resources with peers. Learning how to identify and manage feelings and behaviours. Becoming confident in asking for adult support and listening to what other people have to say. Further developing independence and practising zips and buttons. Learning about who can help us.
Physical Development	Developing our gross motor skills including balancing and changing direction with increasing speed and control. Developing good posture and muscle strength when practising writing. Developing our fine motor skills including threading and weaving, using scissors to cut curved lines. Developing finger strength in our playdough disco sessions and being able to isolate different fingers. Developing a tripod pencil grip.
PE	This term we will be continuing to look at improving our agility, coordination and balance. We will be learning some invasion games, such as football, netball and basketball to help us to improve this.
Literacy – Key texts	I'm a Little Pumpkin Rhyme Fireworks poems and rhymes The Little Red Hen by Ronne Randell Mr Men and Little Miss Happy Diwali by Roger Hargreaves Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins The Christmas Story 
Literacy – phonics (following Little Wandle Phonics)	Continuing to progress through our Little Wandle Phonics scheme and to learn and recognise Phase 2 letter sounds and tricky words (please see the phonics programme below for more information). Beginning to read and write small cvc words such as 'pop' and 'hen' and moving on to using finger spaces and reading and writing short captions E.g. a tin can.

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Mathematics (NCETM)	Comparing how many objects are in a set using the vocabulary 'more than' and 'fewer than' and developing our estimating skills. Exploring the composition of numbers to 5 and understanding that 'whole' things are often made up of smaller parts. Representing numbers to 5 and counting forwards to 10. Using the language of measure to compare sizes of length and height, weight and capacity.
Understanding the World	Features of celebrations – Bonfire Night and fire safety, Diwali and Christmas The changing seasons and weather Comparing old and new Nocturnal animals and exploring light and dark Investigating natural and manmade materials
RE	Diwali - a festival of light Learning about why Christmas is special to Christians
Computing	Researching facts about day and night animals Looking at and comparing old and new photos and cameras Exploring and playing with programmable toys – beebots.
Expressive Arts and Design	Experimenting and building models. Exploring sculpture with playdough. Creating colourful patterns and pictures with paint, chalk and small objects. Working safely with a range of tools such as scissors, hole-punches, threading and stencils. Working from our imagination to express ideas and feelings. Being imaginative and playing with friends, building up a storyline together e.g. in the home area and role-play areas.
Music	We are going to listen and respond to a variety of styles of music, sing along with nursery rhymes and action songs and improvise on classroom percussion instruments.

Home Learning - Reading

All children will bring home 2 books every week:

Sharing Book

This is a book that your child will have chosen to share at home and enjoy building up a story with you. Your child will not be able to read this book on their own. We will change these books on a Monday so please make sure that it is in your child's bookbag every Monday.

Reading Practice Book

This is a book that has been matched to your child's current reading level and will only include letter sounds that they have learned in school. Children will start off their reading journey with a wordless book and progress to books with words when they are confidently blending sounds together to read words. Your child will read this book with an adult in school 3 times a week (Monday-Wednesday) and then bring this book home on a Wednesday. We will then collect this book in the following Wednesday. Your child also has their own reading record. We would like your child to read their book with you three times a week and then please record each read clearly in the reading record. This just needs to be the date, title of the book and a signature. Please also add a reading comment if this is appropriate. We will check the reading records every Wednesday and we will award your child with a Dojo if they have completed three home reads of the **reading practice book**.



Phonics programme

This programme shows the progression of GPC's (grapheme-phoneme-correspondence) and tricky words that we taught last half term and what we will teach over the next half-term in Reception. All of the graphemes taught are practised in words, sentences, and later on, in fully decodable reading books. Children review and revise GPC's and words, daily, weekly and across terms and years, in order to move this knowledge into their long-term memory.

Autumn Term - Phase 2 graphemes (part 1)	Autumn Term - Phase 2 Tricky words (part 1)
s a t p i n m d g o c k c k e u r h b f l	is I the
Autumn Term - Phase 2 graphemes (part 2)	Autumn Term - Phase 2 Tricky words (part 1)
ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu sh th ng nk	put pull full as and has his her go no to into she push he of we me be

Water bottles and snack

Please can you send a water bottle into school every day for your child. It is really important that they have access to water throughout the day and a bottle in the classroom ensures that water is readily available (no squash or juice please). Please label the bottle with your child's name. Your child will be provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable every day for snack but if your child would like to bring in their own snack instead, they can bring in a piece of fruit or veg from home.

PE and Music

PE lessons will be taken by Mr Carpanini and will be on a Thursday and Friday. Children will need to have their PE kit in school on these days. A reminder that your child needs: black shorts, red polo-shirt and daps. When the weather is colder, they may need black tracksuit bottoms. Please ensure that all PE kit is clearly labelled and carried in a named bag. For health and safety reasons, jewellery must be removed for P.E; this includes earrings.

Mrs Pethick will be teaching the children Music on Wednesday's.

Thank you for your continued help and support. We are really looking forward to another exciting half term of fun and learning.

With very best wishes,

Mrs R Sharpe
Reception Teacher

