

Reception Class Newsletter

2nd half autumn term 2018



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term! I do hope you all had a relaxing time with your families and the children are ready to begin their exciting learning journeys again.

Thank you so much for all your lovely photographs of your families. The children have loved sharing with their friends their photographs and talking about who is in their family. Please come and look at our families display board. We love cooking in the early years. This half term we plan to make gingerbread biscuits and other delicious Christmas treats. The children are now very confident in selecting their Special Book to share their learning with their friends and adults. Please have a look at your child's Special Book and do take it home to share it with the rest of the family. The Special Book is a celebration of your child's learning and we hope parents and families value it as much as we do.

Our half termly topic this term is: Celebrations

What we will be learning as part of our topic: there will be many wonderful learning experiences taking place this term, which include children continuing to exploring the learning environment inside and outside. We will link our main story, The Gingerbread Man to different celebrations such as: Halloween, Bonfire night, Hanukka, Diwali and Christmas.

What we will be learning in English: we will start daily phase 2 Phonics sessions. Your child will be bringing home phonics cards this half term so that they can practice what they're learning in class. They will also be bringing home more high frequency word cards too. We will continue to assess their key word knowledge every other week. Books will be sent home for you to share with your child on Monday and Thursdays. If you read a book at home and would like to change it sooner please feel free to do so. Please make sure that your child's book bag is in school daily and that their reading record is always kept in their book bag. This is how we keep track of reading and key words.

The children will focus on The Gingerbread Man and will learn to tell the story by heart, map the story and also innovate the story by changing the setting or one of the characters. Also, the children will take part in shared reading and guided reading sessions twice a week.

What we will be learning in Maths: this year we have introduced CLIC, our new calculation policy. CLIC stands for Count it, Learn it, It's nothing new and Calculation. This policy sets out clear guidelines for progression in teaching the four operations and teachers use this move the children's learning forward. This term we will be continuing to looking at numbers, what they look like and what a number is (e.g. a number 5 means 5 different objects, a number 2 means 2 different objects etc.) We will also counting groups of objects and exploring 'one more' and 'one less' during maths lesson. We will begin continuing to use and model important maths language during every maths session and activity. Some of words we will be using are; number names, more, less, bigger, smaller, longer, and shorter. It would help your child's understanding if you used these words with them during everyday activities.

Also we will start looking at shapes: 3D and 2D shapes and we will go for a shapes walk around the school. We will encourage children to observe that just like numbers, shapes are everywhere.

Other activities, trips and events this half term:

- Thursday 15th November we will visit the Docklands Museum and take part in a workshop: The Sailor who knew 1000 stories.

What you can do to help

Spare set of clothes and willies: if you have wellington boots please allow your child to have them in school as we enjoy an outdoor curriculum whatever the weather. They can come to school wearing their wellies on wet days if you prefer. If your child goes home in borrowed items of clothing, please return them washed as soon as possible.

Shoe boxes and other junk: towards the end of the term we will be setting up a post office role play. It would be really good if you could send us some shoe boxes or any other boxes that we could wrap up and

use as parcels and presents. Also any other junk like egg/milk cartoons will be useful for our creative area where we could do some junk modeling.

Things to remember:

- Remember! – school starts at 8.55. All children should be lined up and ready each morning
- Book bags (Please bring in every day) and keep reading records in book bags
- Special books, if you'd like to take your child's book home please do, just let us know first.
- Spare clothes, please provide in a named plastic bag and hang on your child's peg.
- It is also essential that children remember their glasses if they wear them.

Other information: if you ever have any concerns or would like to speak to us please feel free to do so! We are always happy to talk to you.

Best wishes from the class team: Cristiana, class teacher – Faheema, HLTA and Yumi, teaching assistant