

Reception Class Newsletter

2nd half spring term 2019



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another half term of spring. We hope that your break was a restful and enjoyable one. We have some exciting learning planned for the second half of this term. The children have settled back into their school routines happily and quickly. We are still working on improving their listening skills but overall we are really impressed to see how much they have progressed and how well they are doing with their learning at school. As always if you do have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to us. Here is some information about our upcoming activities this term.

Our half termly topic this term is: Growing

What we will be learning as part of our topic: there will be many wonderful learning experiences taking place this term, which include children planting their own runner beans and sunflowers. This would be a great opportunity for them to observe how plants grow. Also, we will be talking about what plants need to grow and how we should look after them. Each child will have their own plant to look after. Our main book will be *The Acorn* by Edward Gibbs, a book about the life cycle of an oak tree. We will look closely at the book, learning to retell the story, story map it and even attempt to retell the whole story in writing. Also, we will be looking at other fiction books about growing like *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Oliver's Vegetables* and *Planting a rainbow*. In order to enhance children's understanding of the world we will be reading non-fiction books about plants, growing, life-cycles.

What we will be learning in English: we will continue with our daily phonics and shared reading sessions. The children will be using their phonics skills and high frequency words knowledge to read independently during guided reading. We will be exploring the book "*The Acorn*" together and we will focus on the new vocabulary. The children will use this vocabulary in their role-play of the book and also in their writing. There will also be some non-fiction writing opportunities. The children will write instructions about how to plant a bean or sunflower.

What we will be learning in Maths: this term we will focus on shapes, space and measure as well as number sense. We are going to learn about capacity and how to measure the capacity of a container. We will measure the children's height and check how much they have grown since we last measured them in the autumn term. We will weigh the ingredients we need to make pancakes for Shrove Tuesday etc. During our trips to Epping forest and Hyde Park we will be using positional language to find our way through the forest and the park. We will continue to double and half numbers as well as add two numbers together.

Other activities, trips and events this half term:

- 11th March Trip to Epping Forest
- 28th March Trip to Hyde Park

What you can do to help

Reading books: Please make sure that your child's book bag comes in every day and that the books they've taken home are kept in them.

Spare set of clothes and wellies: 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.

Things to remember:

- Remember! – School starts at 8.55. All children should be lined up and ready each morning
- **PE kit** This half term we will continue to do PE in the bottom hall but this time the children will get changed into their PE kits: white top, tracksuit bottoms/leggings, plimsolls
- Special books, if you'd like to take your child's book home please do, just let us know first
- Every child should have a bottle of water in school, please ensure your child has one
- 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.

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