



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

What a fantastic start to Reception! All of the children have settled in so well and are already making us very proud. As we start our second half of the autumn term, we are writing to let you know what we will be learning and all of the exciting things we have planned in the lead up to Christmas.

### **Our Curriculum**

As a school, we work tirelessly to make sure our curriculum is up-to-date as well as exciting and engaging for all our children. This half term our theme is **Terrific Tales!** Our themes for the year and more information about our long-term plan can be found on the school website.

This half term in PSHE we will be learning about celebrating differences and continuing to build positive and respectful relationships. In Understanding the World, we will learn about different celebrations and how these events help us remember historical events such as Remembrance Day. We will compare images of celebrations from around the past and discuss their similarities and differences. In technology we will be using BeeBots to begin to explore spatial awareness and positional language.

During Expressive Arts and Design, the children will continue to use a range of tools for drawing and will be introduced to oil pastels and charcoals to create winter pictures. Children will explore transient art to create characters and settings from core texts. We will then use these skills to create Christmas crafts.

In RE, children will be considering the question: Why do Christians perform a nativity at Christmas? They will learn about the first Christmas story and why this is an important time of year for Christians. The children will develop an understanding of the importance of the Christmas message through role play, small world and performance.

### **Christmas Breakfast and Productions**

We have a number of special events this term, starting with our Christmas Breakfast, which will be on Wednesday 6th December from 8:30am in the school hall. Our Reception Christmas production is scheduled for 2pm on Tuesday 12th December and 9.30am on Wednesday 13th December. More details about this will be released closer to the time.

We have numerous other special events in the run up to Christmas as well, the dates for all of these can be found on the weekly newsletter.

### **PE**

This half term our PE day will be on Thursday with Mr Ellis. . Please ensure that your child is properly prepared. If they wear earrings please remove them before school (staff are not able to support them with this). Please can all long hair be securely tied up to avoid any accidents.

Children must have the correct PE kit with them. This should include named; white t-shirt, black or navy shorts. Children are welcome to leave this hanging on their peg all half term to make life easier!

## **Uniform**

Do not forget, as a school we are trying to do our bit for the planet and recycle as much as possible. If you would like any uniform or some PE kit from our good quality second hand uniform cupboard, please phone the office or catch a member of staff at the door.

## **Phonics and Reading**

We will continue to have daily phonics and guided reading sessions. To enable you to best support your child's phonics at home, we will continue sending home the yellow books on a Friday, detailing what we have covered so you know what to practise with them.

In school, guided reading books will be changed regularly. This book will be available to read the following week on our online reading platform, Collins eBooks.

As a school, we recommend that children read at home every day, so please read as regularly as you are able to.

## **Library**

During the week, children will visit our Big Red Reading Bus twice. We will have a whole class story time on the bus, as well as allowing another opportunity for children to choose and borrow their own book. Please support your child to remember to bring their library book to change every Tuesday for Mrs Stubbs children and a Wednesday for Mrs Kerrs and Mrs Monks children.

## **Weekly Newsletters**

As always, Mrs Clark will continue to write weekly newsletters to keep you up-to-date with all the exciting things happening in school. To reduce our paper use and do our part for the planet, these will be emailed out every Friday. Please contact the office if you are not receiving them. These newsletters also include important upcoming dates that you need to be aware of so please take the time to check them weekly.

Thank you in advance for all of your support. Please always remember that school is here to help if you need us.

Kind regards,

Mrs Stubbs, Mrs Kerr and Mrs Monks.