

Nursery Newsletter Autumn 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you had a lovely break - it is lovely to have the children back and ready to learn! They have been fantastic at resettling in the Nursery and it appears that they have been having lots of fun. We are sure that they will be very tired by the end of this week.

This half term the children will be learning the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and this will support their learning of counting foods, creating art work and learning about the world. The children have become very familiar with the story this week and we have used puppets and created our own picnic for our very hungry caterpillar.

This week we have explored different caterpillars through videos and images and will soon learn all about the life cycle of a caterpillar. We will also be exploring how to keep a healthy, balanced diet and hope to use our planting skills again to grow some root vegetables.

The children are also continuing to learn how to recognise their names in preparation for name writing.

This week we are exploring bonfire night and children have enjoyed making rockets and firework pictures. Next week we will learn all about Diwali. Our R.E scheme for this half term focuses on the story of Christmas and this will build us up for our Christmas performance later in the term.

In maths, we will continue to investigate numbers 1 to 5, as well as learning different 2D shapes so please use any opportunities to count and recognise numbers and shapes in the environment at home.

Please also continue to read at home with your child and talk to them about their day in Nursery.

As always, if you have any questions then please do let one of the team know.

Ms Newton, Mrs Simpson, Mrs Nunn and Ms

Momtaz



Please make sure your child comes to Nursery with a labelled bag of spare clothes.



Welcome back Reception children and parents, we hope that you all had a great half term and are looking forward to more new and exciting learning opportunities across the autumn. This half term our theme is 'What makes winter special' (Christmas traditions, the seasons), which we will be linking to our learning across the whole curriculum. These themes have strong links with the understanding the world aspect of our curriculum where we compare festivals, beliefs, cultures and seasons as well as observe the effects the changing times of year have on the weather, nature and wildlife.

What are we learning about?

LITERACY

This half term we will move onto teaching the first sets of sound in accordance with Phase 2 phonics. We will be moving into phonic groups to provide children with the targeted teaching that they need. Throughout each session children will continue to learn a new sound, practice blending and reading as well as letter formation and spelling. Once the first set of sounds have been taught and consolidated the focus moves to the children reading and writing words independently. The decodable reading books that we allocate on Bug Club will support your child with this. More information regarding Bug Club will be provided within the next few weeks. The children will also write their first instructional piece of writing based on our class text, The Gingerbread Man.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

This half term we will continue to build our fine motor skills in order to strengthen our grip for writing. We will also spend greater time on letter and number formation. Alongside this, we will also build on the children's independence with tasks such as cutting up food, doing up zips and getting dressed. Please continue to work with your child at home to practice writing their name.

Our PE day this term will Thursday.

MATHS

In math, we will be consolidating our understanding of numbers to 5. We will work on comparing numbers, subitising amounts, and using 'part-whole' models to understand the composition of numbers.

We will also be exploring circles and triangles before moving onto shapes with 4 sides.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL

We will continue to teach our school's values across the term both in class and in our weekly worship. Our values are: care, respect, and inspire. We will also continue to complete group activities that promote turn taking and co-operation.

CLASS NOTICES

Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day and that their clothing is labelled with their name.

This term, children will be given a book to read for pleasure as well as a reading record for you to record a comment on your child's reading engagement. This book is in addition to any decodable phonic book(s) allocated on Bug Club. Books for pleasure are to be shared at home and is to help promote a love of reading.

Let's have a great term. Mrs Akhtar and the reception team.

Year 1 Newsletter - Autumn 2

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope that you had a restful half term break and are ready for the second half of the Autumn term.



During **English** this term, we will be reading the book, 'The Robot and Bluebird' by David Lucas.

We will be using this book as a basis for our writing to form sentences, write character descriptions and write a non-chronological report. Over the course of the term, we will continue to develop the skills that the children have already started to learn when writing sentences— using finger spaces, capital letters, full stops and using the conjunction 'and' to join simple sentences. We will also introduce an additional grammar focus of adding adjectives, and a prepositional phrase to our writing to create expanded noun phrases.

In **phonics**, the children will continue to consolidate their previous work from phase 3 as well as continuing their learning of phase 5 sounds. Please do continue to use Bug Club as this will help embed these sounds further.

In **maths** our focus will be on addition and subtraction. We will learn about number bonds to 10 with instant recall. And will dive deeper into understanding and representing addition and subtraction in different ways. We will use the part-whole frame along with addition/subtraction sentences, number lines, manipulatives and ten frames to practice and develop addition and subtraction skills. Towards the end of term, we will focus on 2D and 3D shapes.

In **RE** the children will be learning about the birth of Jesus and why He is such an important person. They will learn about Christmas, why and how it is celebrated and use their understanding to answer our key enquiry question, 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?'

In **Science**, our topic is, 'Animals, Including Humans'. We will learn about the human body and will begin by looking at the main parts of the human body; head, neck, arms, legs, mouth, hands and feet as well as vital internal structures and organs, exploring their functions. We will then shift our focus to exploring our 5 senses.

In **History and Geography**, the children will be learning about changes in living memory and sequencing events in their own lives to date. We will also look at changes over time in the local area.

Our **PSHE** focus will be *Celebrating differences* and our **P4C** focus will be looking into family and friendship.

Finally, this half-term Year 1 has the pleasure of hosting, Miss Lennox who is completing her teacher training.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, then do please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Miss Jacob and the Year 1 Team





Welcome back after the holidays... we hope that you had a restful break and that your child is ready to start their second half term in Year 2.



What are we learning this half term?

English

This half term the children will be starting their English learning with the story of George's Marvellous Medicine. The children will be building their knowledge of different adjectives and using these to write character descriptions. They will also be writing witness statements about what happened to Grandma when George gave her his medicine.

The children will then use the story of Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen.

We will continue to practise phonics daily, along with the children's spellings.

The children will also have weekly grammar sessions and will be encouraged to use what they know in their writing.

We will also be working more on the children's handwriting and teaching them how to join their letters.

Science

This half term we are hoping to create some little master chefs. The children will be learning all about food... how to store it safely, how to be hygienic when handling it and having a go at creating some of their own recipes. As we create different treats, the children will look at what changes they notice and predict what they think will happen.

R.E.

The children will be answering the key question of 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' We will explore in more depth the story of the birth of Jesus and look at how Christmas is celebrated and represented through different nativity scenes around the world. The children will also use their learning to help them in our Christmas nativity.

Maths

The children will continue their learning around addition and subtraction and crossing numbers that are tens. We are using number lines to help the children with this. We will then be learning about money and multiplication & division.

Thank you for helping your child with their 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s. It is already having an impact on their learning!

History/Geography

This half term the children will be looking at two key figures from history, Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. They will use historical artefacts to learn about their work and to see how they helped to change the world for a better place!

Home learning will be sent out every three weeks, with a small-scale project along with weekly spellings.

The Year 2 team, Miss Robin, Miss Hayes and Mrs Golding.



From nothingness came chaos, from chaos came air and water, from air and water came life! Then, rising majestically from the darkness, came Gaia, Mother Earth, a beacon of warmth and light. Discover a fantastical world full of mythical creatures and legendary heroes. Poseidon, Apollo, Artemis and Zeus, reign almighty from Mount Olympus, watching mere mortals on dusty Athenian streets. Meet Odysseus, the hero on his epic journey as he returns to his wife Penelope, with the spoils of victory in the Trojan War. Explore the terrains of Greece, where in pure blue skies, the sun scorches waxen wings and melts the fortunes of Icarus and Daedalus.

In **Maths**, children will be practicing their accuracy in addition and subtraction learning how to exchange from 10s and 100s. Following this, we will spend the rest of the term developing our multiplication and division recall and strategies for calculation.

In **English**, we will be looking at the story of 'Odysseus' and use this to write our own myths and legends exploring the various types of Greek Gods. We will also be writing a speech based on the story of his encounter with Polyphemus the cyclops. Following this, we will look at newspaper report writing, and some poetry in the lead up to Christmas.

In our **Humanities** work, we will be investigating maps of Europe and Ancient Greece and ordering dates and events from Ancient Greek times onto a timeline.

In **R.E.**, we will be learning about Christianity exploring our question, 'What is trinity?' Year 3 will be looking into what water symbolises to Christians. This will lead us to look at the story of Jesus's baptism.

Our focus in **Science** will be Forces and Magnets. The pupils will be using their knowledge of the Ancient Greek Scientists and thinkers to develop their existing skills and consider if you can 'block' magnetism.

Please remember that this term we will continue to have homework (Spellings, time's tables and a comprehension). This will be given out on a Thursday.

We are looking forward to a super second half of the term to finish Autumn! If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask!

Miss Atiya and the Year 3 Team



Year 4 Newsletter - Autumn 2

Dear Families,

It's probably the most famous date in English history... we're travelling back to 1066! King Edward is dying, so we'll write job applications for the role of King. We'll research the events of 1066 and create our own Norman shields. What was the Battle of Hastings, and how did it change our country?

Our Learning

In **English**, we will use our class text, The Tinderbox, to help inspire our writing skills in diary entries, newspaper reports, biographies, and character descriptions. Towards the end of November, we will publish our own versions of the story, showcasing our storytelling techniques. In **Maths**, we will complete a short unit on Area, before moving onto a concentrated block on Multiplication and Division. **Science** sees us investigate bubbles and their properties, looking at how yeast makes bread rise and what makes sherbet fizz. In **History**, we will be studying the Norman conquest and how it changed our country. We will look at Norman castles and weapons as well as using a variety of sources and exploring the Bayeux Tapestry online. In **R.E** we will be studying Christianity and focusing on the people of God. We will look at what faith is and how Christians show this in their lives before answering the enquiry question: 'What is it like to follow God?'

Suggestions for learning:

- Times tables (everything up to 12s is needed by the end of Year 4)
- Practice spellings
- Continue daily reading
- 1066 was a year of great change for Britain. Why not visit a castle or fort together to find out who lived there and when it was built?

Important reminders

- We will continue to swim at Poplar baths on Friday afternoons - Kindly note that children must not be wearing earrings and must have a swimming cap.
- Homework will be sent out every Thursday and should be returned by Tuesday the following week.

Finally, please don't hesitate to arrange a meeting to talk to us to discuss any points or queries.

I hope you, like us, are looking forward to a fantastic end to 2023 in Year 4!

Miss Cullen and the year 4 team

Year 5 Newsletter - Autumn Term 2

Stargazers

Journey through space, the final frontier!

Let's take a trip to the stars, planets and suns and discover the amazing wonders of the night sky. Navigate beyond the Sun, the magnificent, blazing star at the centre of our solar system!

Investigate the eight planets- Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Take a look at the Moon, a celestial body that orbits Earth. Exploring Space is probably the greatest adventure that humankind has ever undertaken. Are we alone or are there other life forms out there?

In **Maths** this half term, we will be securing our understanding of multiplication and division by using both mental and written methods. We will also be returning to fractions, finding equivalent fractions and converting improper fractions into mixed numbers.

In **English**, we will focus on the story 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce, where the class will be writing setting descriptions and performing debates. We will also be writing newspaper reports in a cross-curricular unit linked with our historical topic, focusing on the moon landing of 1969.

In **RE**, we will be exploring the key question: 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' We will focus on the meaning of 'messiah', 'saviour' and 'incarnation', examining Biblical texts to find out what qualities a messiah needs, and how Jesus demonstrated these qualities.

As **Scientists**, we will be finding out fascinating facts about the Sun, Moon and Earth, and developing our understanding of day and night, the four seasons, and the Moon's phases. The Sun and the planets making up our Solar System will also be investigated, along with other stars and constellations.

In **History and Geography**, we will be learning about Galileo and Sir Isaac Newton, and how their work has influenced our understanding of the World. We will explore evidence for the Earth being spherical, and examine historical ideas of the Earth being flat. We will be using a range of aerial photos and investigating what geographical features are and how we can identify these.

Ideas for home learning:

We will also be continuing with our Philosophical thinking this half term (**P4C**) and will use a range of space-themed stimuli to help us devise our own questions for class discussions. This helps us to deepen our thinking skills and increase our confidence and understanding of everyday concepts.

- Keep a Moon diary over the course of a lunar month. Draw the shape of the Moon each night, finding out and recording the correct term for each lunar phase.
- Search the night sky and try to identify the Moon, stars or even some of the other planets in the Solar System. Use binoculars or a telescope if possible. You might also be able to use an app which will help you to locate the position of the stars.
- Design and create an astronaut space helmet or alien headwear using junk materials.
- Make a 3D model of the Solar System which displays all the planets in order.

We are really looking forward to exploring space with Year 5! If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask.

Miss Dooley and Ms White.

Year 6 Class Newsletter– Autumn 2



Welcome back, we hope that you all had a wonderful half term break and that you are all ready to go for another half term in Year 6!

Our core reading in **English** this half term is *Fox*, by Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks. The book will provide us with opportunities to explore many different genres in English including; poetry, creative writing and moral narratives. We will continue to practise weekly Year 6 spelling patterns and will test the children in these and also their grammar on a weekly basis. This will help us to plan for and teach any gaps in their learning. Please remember it is important to listen to your child read on a regular basis. Children have access to books in the classroom that they should be taking home to read daily and bringing into school each day too!



For **Maths** we will be learning all about Fractions. The children will learn how to compare, simplify and calculate fractions, including multiplying and dividing as well as percentages, ratio and proportion. Please continue to support your children with practicing their times tables at home as this will be crucial for their success in Maths this year.

As **Scientists** we'll be learning about light. We will learn how light travels and how it can be reflected and blocked. We will also learn about the functions of the eye and how they help us with 'seeing'.

In **R.E.** the children will be learning about Christianity. We will be looking at the Gospel and discussing our key question 'What would Jesus do?'. Our unit will start with analysing the text of The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)

P.E. will continue to be every Tuesday and Friday with our West Ham coaches.

Home learning will also be set weekly, please support your child with this.

If you have any questions then please let Mr Dunford and the Year 6 team know!

Best wishes and here's to successful half term!

As **Historians** the children will be learning some of the history of the Mayan civilization, looking at their religion, historical sites and the legacy of the people.

As **Geographers** we will use maps to locate Mexico. We will learn about Mexico, its culture, climate, and landforms, and compare it with our own country and other countries we have learnt about.

