

# Autumn term newsletter



September 2018

Dear Parents,

The children have had a busy week in Reception class taking part in a variety of 'busy learning' activities both inside and outside, and are having a lot of fun! They have made a fantastic start and are already gaining monkeys towards their class reward!

### **Themes**

We have several different themes based on stories which run throughout the term. This half term we will be starting with the story 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see?' and then moving on to the story 'Dear Zoo'. We will be helping the children to become immersed in these stories and they will be learning to orally retell them and then the children will help us to change the stories slightly to produce a different version! We will also link different areas of the curriculum to the themes and will be doing different art, craft and science activities based on these stories. In Maths we will be focusing on space and measure initially looking at position, patterns, size and weight. We will be starting phase 2 phonics and will use the sounds we learn to begin to read and write simple words.

We will also be thinking about how we stay healthy and the children will have opportunities to make and eat different foods!

### **Special events**

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September after school at 3:30-4:15pm we will be holding a phonic workshop in our classroom for parents of Reception children. We will show you the way we teach phonics and give some ideas of activities we do at school and things you can do at home to support your child.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September is European Day of Languages when we will do different activities associated with a European country. We have chosen to do France and the children are invited to dress in the colours of the French flag (red, white or blue).

The Commando challenge is a fundraising event organised by the PTA which is on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September. It would be lovely to see you there, if you are able to join us.

### **Homework**

The children will have some homework to consolidate their phonics. This will initially be a phonic reading booklet which we would like the children to try to read to you, using the sounds they have just learnt! We would be grateful if you can keep the booklet in the plastic wallet and in their book bag as we may also use them in school. In addition, we will be sending home packs containing a listening activity to do with your child. Please return these by Wednesday of the following week. The children will have a 'pink 1' reading book and a library book which they will choose themselves each week.

### **A few reminders**

Please make sure sweatshirts and cardigans, snack pots, drinks bottles and lunch boxes are clearly named, as children often forget which one is theirs and we get quite a collection!

It is also helpful if your child has a change of clothes in school in case of any 'accidents'.

School news will be communicated every Thursday via an email bulletin. The first bulletin sent home in book bags yesterday gave lots of information on important dates and parent/school partnership. The website is also a useful reference for dates and resources.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do come in after school to see us.

Many thanks,  
Mrs Palfrey and Mrs Jackson