

Reception Class Newsletter

8th October 2018

Dear Parents and Children,

I can't believe we are almost at the end of our first half term! We are delighted with the way that the children have settled into Reception Class and school life. Thank you for all your support during these first few weeks. I would also like to thank the Year 6 buddies who have built up such lovely relationships with the children and have really helped them during lunch.

As the majority of the class are already coming in independently, I am proposing that we do this for all Reception children with effect from Monday 15th October. Mrs Green or I will still be waiting in the cloak room area to greet them and any notes can be handed to your child or to the teacher on duty to give to us.

In these newsletters, I like to give you a brief insight as to some of the things that we have been learning in school. I will also add photographs to Tapestry of different activities too. Do let me know if you are still unable to access it.

What have we been learning in school?

Our focus text has been "We're Going on a Bear Hunt". We watched a clip of Michael Rosen retelling his story with actions and have been using this to orally retell the story. We have also used the text for a drama session and have been on a bear hunt around the school looking for paw prints with sounds on them. The children have also been able to use small world toys to retell the story independently.

In maths our focus has been on getting to know the children's current number knowledge. We have also been doing some careful counting and are starting to record numbers, looking carefully at numbers which are commonly reversed, for example, 2.

We have also been finding out about our bodies and thinking about how our senses help us to find out about the world. We created paintings using fragranced paints and also played the smelly sock game where we had to try to guess what was inside the sock!

There has been lots of outside fun too whether it is playing with the sand, balancing on the bumpy track or riding the tricycles in the playground.

Phonics

We are busy learning our letter sounds and are also starting to look at the first sight words too – a, in, and, of, to.

Reading Books

Please could you make sure that you write the title of your child's book in the Home School Link Book when they have read it so that we know that the book needs changing.

Show and Tell

Show and tell will start after half term and will usually take place on Thursdays. Your child may bring in **one** object from home – it could be related to our topic, something they have made or something that they would like to share with the class. Please do not send in anything that is precious (eg a bedtime cuddly!) or breakable!! Dates are as follows:

Green group – 1st November/29th November

Yellow Group – 8th November/6th December

Red Group 15th November/13th December

Blue Group – 22nd November/**Monday** 17th December

Optional Challenge

We do not formally set homework in Reception Class other than daily reading and learning of sight words. I will, however, include optional challenges that you may like to do with your child. Dependent on the challenge, these can then be shared on our “Wow Wall” in class or can be uploaded on to Tapestry.

Number Hunt!

Numbers are everywhere! Our whole class challenge is to try to find every number from 1 – 100! Can you find any numbers at home or when you are out and about? Take a photograph or draw the number and bring it into school. We will see if we can make our own 100 square from numbers that we can find in the environment.

Have fun!

Cake Stall – Friday 23rd November

I would be very grateful if a parent could coordinate this for our class. It is a great fundraiser for school and is very popular with the children too.

Easy Fundraising

The Friends of Great Chesterford School have an “Easy Fundraising” page which allows the school to raise money whenever you make a purchase at an affiliated site, at no cost to yourself. If you would like more information on how to set up an account, please do contact a member of the Friends Committee or myself.

Other Dates For Your Diary:

Our assembly – 23rd November

Hullabaloo’s Performance of Luna (Saffron Hall) – 14th November. A letter will be sent out to you confirming the arrangements and payment for this trip before the end of this half term.

Also, don’t forget our road safety walk on Thursday morning – 11th October.

If you have any queries regarding this newsletter or have any other questions, please do speak to myself or a member of the Reception Class team.

Best wishes,

Amanda Davies