

# Owls' Class Newsletter- Term 2

Welcome back!

We hope that you had a fun yet restful break and that, like us, you are looking forward to the term ahead. The children settled into school life so quickly last term and this term we will continue to build on the great progress they have already made. In the morning, please remember to say goodbye to the children at the gate where the teachers stand. This helps the children settle quickly in the classroom and encourages their independence to sort and manage themselves and their belongings.

This term we will be learning about Celebrations & Food before moving on to finding out more about the Christmas story and of course learning our wonderful Nativity performance.

Please come and talk to us if you have any questions.

Mrs Foxall, Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Wiffen

## Reading at Home

Thank you for your ongoing support with reading at home. We will continue to change reading books each Tuesday and Friday but please send in their books and reading record diaries every day as the children take part in daily reading activities.

It is very common for children to struggle when first working on segmenting and blending the sounds to read a regular word. Continuous practice will enable children to continue making fantastic progress in this area.

## P.E. lessons take place every **Wednesday**.

Children should have their full named kit, always including plimsolls or trainers, in school in case additional activities take place on other days. As the weather gets colder the children may want to bring a hat, scarf and gloves into school. It's important that every item is named and that the children know what is theirs.

As well as coats, hats and scarves we can have up to 60 gloves floating around in the coat area! We will continue to go outside during child-initiated play. If you have wet weather coats or suits to leave in school, please send them in.

We have been working hard on being able to tend to our own needs in class, including being able to put on our own coats and to change for PE independently or with very little help. This may be something you also want to encourage and reward your child for doing at home.

## Diary Dates

WB 10<sup>th</sup> November- Anti-Bullying Week

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> December-Nativity Show

5<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas Fair

17<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas Dinner

19<sup>th</sup> December- Last Day of Term

## Why not share some of these activities with your child:

### Topic

- Write down a list of foods you like to eat for breakfast
- Write a shopping list
- Find out what happens at a wedding or another celebration. Ask an adult what sort of celebrations you have taken part in. Are there photographs of these?

### Literacy

- Continue reading your book regularly. Perhaps find someone different to read to. Have you ever read to a grandparent?
- Practise writing words which contain the sounds you know. Can you write the following words?  
*cat, pop, mat, pin, sat, nip.*
- Start to learn the tricky words listed on the next page. You should be able to read these on sight and from memory.

### Maths

- Practise writing numbers. Can you write numbers 1-10 correctly?
- Practise counting to 20 getting all those tricky 'teen' numbers in order.
- Make sure that you can recognise and name the following shapes.
- square, triangle, rectangle and circle.

## What are we learning this term?

**\*Food & Drink-** We will begin our mini topic of 'Food and Drink' by thinking about the foods and meals that we enjoy to eat. We will discuss these with our peers and compare what we enjoy to the favourite foods of our friends. We will then compare the meals eaten by us in England to the meals eaten in other countries. We will find out more about why a healthy diet is important and the impact on our bodies by consuming too much sugar. As part of our learning linked to food we hope to do some tasting and baking of our own, enjoying our baked goods as a class.

**\*Celebrations-** This term we will be finding out more about many festivals and celebrations. We will start the term by learning about Diwali and Bonfire Night. We will complete writing and art based tasks linked to these. We will also think about birthdays and how these are celebrated in different ways. As part of this we will prepare for and hold our own birthday party in class for one of our class teddy bears. Finally, we will find out more about wedding ceremonies and the promise of marriage. We will learn about what it means to marry someone as well as finding out about different marriage ceremonies and family structures. We also hope to involve our Methodist Minister, Reverend Rosemary in our lessons on marriage.

**\*Christmas-** In addition to taking part in class-based Christmas activities we will be learning the Christmas story and exploring why it is a significant story. We will also talk about ways that Christmas is celebrated and write letters to Father Christmas.

**\*Phonics-** We will continue to recap the sounds we learnt last term in addition to learning new sounds. We will continue to practise how to segment and blend sounds in order to read simple words and sentences. In addition to learning new sounds we will also learn some tricky words which cannot be decoded using phonics and instead need to be recognised from memory.

The sounds which we will learn are:  
g, o, c, k, ck, e, u, r, h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss

The Tricky Words we will learn are:  
no, go, to, I, the, into

**\*Literacy-** In literacy we will focus our lessons around the stories listed below, these stories link to our different mini topics. We will apply the phonic sounds we know in order to write in a variety of contexts. We will progress from writing captions and lists to writing sentence like structures.

The Tiger Who Came to Tea- Judith Kerr  
Harry & The Bucketful of Dinosaurs have a Happy Birthday- Ian Whybrow & Adrian Reynolds  
The Scarecrow's Wedding- Julia Donaldson  
Various Christmas Stories

**\*Maths –** This term we will continue to work on our ability to count a group of objects and will start to count up to 20 objects. We will start to recall number facts and totals. We all also continue to try and write numbers correctly, forming digits 0-9 accurately. We will practise ordering and comparing numbers. We will continue learning about shapes and will explore and find out about patterns using different colours and shapes.