



Early Years Foundation Stage Nursery and Reception Newsletter Autumn Term 2 2024 - 2025

I would like to begin by extending a warm welcome back to all of our Early Years children and families, I hope you have enjoyed a restful half term break. We have a busy half term ahead with lots of exciting experiences planned, including enjoying lots of Christmas festivities.

Curriculum

This half term we will look at the many different celebrations and festivals that fall at this time of year. We will explore the festival of Diwali, fireworks night, advent and finally enjoy lots of Christmas fun and learning. We have a very exciting term ahead of us.

Phonics

Daily phonics sessions will continue for all Reception pupils using our school phonics programme 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised'. This term we will introduce digraphs (two letters that make one sound) and continue to develop skills of blending to read simple CVC words, for example c-a-t 'cat'. I will send home a weekly phonics sheet which will provide you with information about the sounds and words we have been learning that week. Practising these sounds/words with your children at home really helps them to progress and is an opportunity for them to show off what they can do.

Some of our nursery children have also started their Little Wandle phonics sessions. These short sessions are a fun way to introduce children to sounds and sound discrimination through games. The children really enjoy these sessions, and we have found them to be very beneficial when children transition from nursery to Reception in September.

Maths

Nursery children will begin to develop their early counting and number skills through their play and exploration of the activities in our indoor and outdoor provision. Learning and singing number rhymes will continue throughout the day, in addition to the activities and resources available through our continuous provision.

Reception children will continue to have a daily focused maths session. These sessions follow the White Rose Maths programme of learning in line with the Maths teaching throughout the rest of the school. During this term we begin to develop counting skills and explore numbers 0-5.

Maths lending library

This term we will open our maths lending library. This is an opportunity for children to borrow Maths games, resources and books to enjoy at home. We hope this will support their developing Maths skills. If you have any simple board games at home that you would be happy to donate, please speak to Mrs Butcher,

Reception Reading

Our Reception children have now all been provided with a reading book and reading bear. At Twyford School reading is so very important to us and we urge you to support your child's reading skills by sharing their reading book with them every day. Please record each read in their reading record. Just 5 minutes together will make a huge difference to giving your child the best possible start to their learning. Each day

that a child reads at home will be recorded on a bookmark in school and awards will be given throughout the year to those pupils who achieve 50, 100, 150 and 250 reads at home!

Mystery Reader

This term we will begin our Mystery reader sessions. This is an opportunity for parents, grandparents or anyone important to the children to come into school and share a book (one from home or school) with the children. It's a lovely surprise for the children when they discover who the mystery reader is and another chance to immerse the children the world of books and stories. We welcome everyone to take part (discretion is the only requirement). If you would like to sign up, please speak to Mrs Butcher.

Rhyme Time

Both Nursery and Reception will continue with our weekly rhyme time. Each class will learn five new rhymes during this half term in addition to learning some new Christmas songs! Keep an eye out on Tapestry to see which rhyme we are learning each week!

Lending Library

The introduction of the class lending libraries last year were a great success and Mrs Carter and I are pleased to reintroduce these in Nursery and Reception this term. Children have the option to choose a book from our lending library to share and enjoy with you at home. When they are ready, they can return the book and choose another. We hope you enjoy some of our favourite stories as much as we do in school!

Physical Development

We shall be taking full advantage of our spacious outdoor area to support the development of key physical skills. We use our outdoor environment in all weathers so please ensure children come to school with a warm named coat, hat, gloves and wellies.

PE

Reception children are enjoying their weekly PE sessions with Mr Dalmedo. This term they have begun changing into their full PE kit. Please support your child with these new skills at home, encouraging them to dress independently. Practise makes perfect!

Enrichment

This term we will explore our school environment and local area, including a trip to post a letter to someone special. We are also looking forward to our visit to St Mary's Church this for our annual Advent Service. Further details will be sent in due course.

Toddler and Baby Group

Our toddler and baby group is back for another year and we are looking forward to welcoming both new and existing families into school each Friday morning. Please do pop on down with your younger ones and spread the word to families and friends. The group will continue to be held every Friday morning from 9:45am – 11:00am in the school hall. No booking required, just turn up, relax with a cup of tea and enjoy!

Dates for your diary

Reception nativity play- Thursday 12th December

Christmas lunch in school- Friday 13th December

Christmas Jumper day- Monday 16th December

Nursery Christmas sing along- Wednesday 18th December

Hopefully this newsletter has given you a brief snapshot into the exciting term ahead. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to pop in and see myself, Mrs Carter or Mrs Oakes.

Mrs S Butcher
Reception Teacher