



Acorn Class Newsletter



Well done Acorn Class for completing your first term at school!

All of the Reception team are incredibly proud of how well the children have settled into 'big' school. Lots of new friendships have been made and the children have enjoyed trying new activities. We have noticed the children really enjoy being outside and 'Dough disco' is also very popular and a highlight of the week!

Another area I have been incredibly proud is Phonics. The children are picking up the sounds quickly and next term we will focus on blending. Thank you to all the parents too as the support the children are getting at home is incredible and really does benefit the children.



All parents are now connected to Class Dojo which is amazing so thank you!

Please do add things to your child's portfolio as the children really enjoy sharing this with the staff and their friends in school. It can be 'learning' activities but equally we love to see the things that you get up to as a family as it's a great talking point to share with the children and also enhances the 'Communication and Language' area of our curriculum.

Clothing

Please make sure all items of your child's clothing has their name on it. This means we can return lost items to the correct owner quickly. This does include coats, hats, scarves and gloves as the weather is changing and becoming colder.

Water Bottles

Please ensure bottles in the classroom only contain water. The children will not be able to drink juice in the classroom.

Curriculum information

Our topic in Term 2 is 'Terrific tales and Celebrations'



In **Communication and Literacy** this term, we will be thinking about our favourite stories. These may include traditional fairy tales or other stories your child always goes back to. We will be performing some of our favourite stories using repetitive phrases and actions, creating our own story maps and learning about what a traditional tale is. You will definitely know some of these! We will continue to learn more phonemes in phonics and practise blending to read simple words and captions in our story books. In writing, we will focus on practising our names and correct letter formation. Also continuing drawing club, and learning to write labels and captions to accompany our pictures. Please talk and share with your child some of your favourite stories. Maybe take a visit to the library!

In **Maths** this term, we will continue to practise subitising and learn how to find one more and one less than a given number. Also to add and subtract practically. We will begin to find various ways to represent numbers 1 to 10. Our learning will be reinforced by the 'number blocks' which is a great programme that supports the early years maths curriculum.

Understanding of the World—We will continue to learn about the world around us through celebrations such as Diwali and Christmas. Also learning about Remembrance. These provide lots of opportunities to be creative in **Expressive, Art and Design** too. We will begin to experiment with different colours and textures and explore instruments in **Music**.

We are very fortunate to have Gillingham football club coming to work with us this term. They will be helping the children to develop their ball skills. This will be on a **Tuesday. Please can children come to school in their PE kit on a Tuesday.**

Phonics and Early Reading

We will continue to send home the Phonics home learning on a **Thursday** along with a new reading book. As part of whole school policy, we would like the children to read/share their reading book at home too. Please do initial or comment in your child's reading contact book.

'Sharing books' to read for pleasure with your child will be sent home on a **Thursday or Friday**.

We are holding a handwriting workshop on **Thursday 6th November at 2.30** if you would like to find out more about how we teach writing and handwriting in school.

Things to look out for in term 2...

- We are currently trying to arrange a trip to the Library.
- We are preparing for our very first Christmas Nativity. *Dates to follow.*

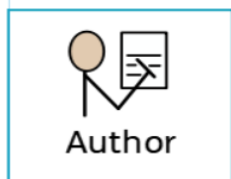
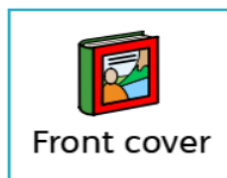
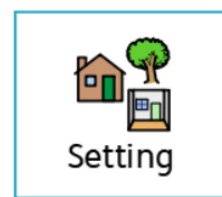
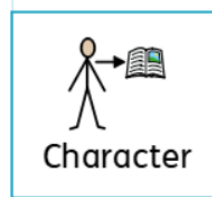
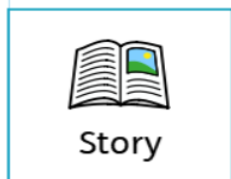
How can you help at home?

- Practise putting on jumpers and coats independently ready for the cold weather.
- Practise using a knife and fork.
- Share and discuss stories every night.
- Sing nursery rhymes and other short songs
- Listen and discuss sounds around you e.g. animal sounds, everyday sounds etc.
- Emphasise initial sounds of words i.e. c for cat
- Practise recognising and writing your name.
- Can you write short 3 letter words that we have practised in Phonics.
- Count daily and look out for numbers in your home.
- Create a rocket 'Firework' using junk modelling materials around the home.
- Write a letter to Father Christmas.
- Act out your own story for your family

Key Vocabulary this term

Communication and Language is a priority area in Early Years and we encourage you to take every opportunity to engage in dialogue with your child. We learn new vocabulary every week through our Drawing club sessions, Daily Maths sessions and key words linked to our topic. As we learn a new word, we add an action, Makaton sign and a visual to support all children to learn the new vocabulary. We encourage the children to use the new vocabulary through play or daily routines by offering opportunities for recap and retrieval. I have added a few of our key vocabulary words for this term below.

Terrific tales



Celebrations

