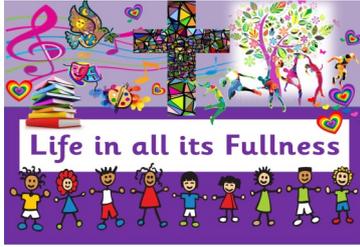


Reception

Newsletter



Hello and welcome to the first Autumn Term edition of our Reception Newsletter.

The children look very smart in their uniform. They have settled in really well and it has been a pleasure getting to know them in their first few days of school.

Uniform

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly **labelled** with your child's full name and class. This includes coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Your child will be learning indoors and outdoors everyday so please send your child with a coat everyday.

Book Bags

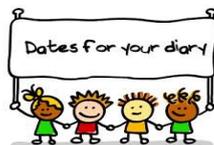
Please make sure that you have **labelled** your child's book bag with their name and class so that they do not get lost. Book bags are part of the school uniform and should be brought to school everyday.

Open Evening

Every half term parents are invited into school to look at their child's work. **Our first Parents Evening is Wednesday 24th October 3.10-5.00pm.** You will be able to make an appointment with your child's teacher, closer to the time. In this one to one meeting you will be able to discuss your child and look at all the progress they are making in school. Later in the term there will be an open evening for you to come along to. Look out for that in our next newsletter.

Homework

Your child will shortly be receiving their new homework book. Inside you will find a variety of fun tasks for your child to complete this half term. Please read and sign the homework agreement and encourage your child to complete the tasks and to take pride in their work. Awards are given for successfully completing the tasks. We look forward to seeing your creative approaches to the tasks.



Home Reading

Well done to all of the children who have brought in their new book bags already! It is vital that you read regularly with your child. Research shows that children who read at home make better progress at school.

Books will be changed on a Tuesday and Friday every week. The first reading books will be given out on Friday 14th September. These will be simple picture books for you to share with your child. Please talk about what is happening, who the characters are, the characters feelings, what might happen next etc. to encourage your children to really immerse themselves in the story.

Could you please fill out the comments box in the reading record diary when you have read with your child as this will tell us that your child's book is ready to be changed.

We cannot change their reading book unless it has been written in. We will also be hearing your child read individually and in groups weekly.

Please help us to help your child reach their full potential by reading together everyday. Thank you

PE Kits

PE takes place every **Wednesday.** **Please make sure that a FULL PE kit is kept in school at all times. Label each item of clothing with your child's name.** We will send home PE kits at the end of every half term.

To reach Age Related Expectation at the end of Reception, children must be able to dress independently. That means changing clothes, fastening buttons and putting on socks and shoes. Many children cannot do this yet so please practise this skill at home.



Wednesday 26th September School Photographs

Thursday 27th September Macmillan Cake Sale

Monday 8th October Flu immunisations

Tuesday 9th October Harvest Festival and reception parent workshop 1:15pm

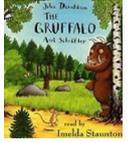
Wednesday 17th October—Visit from Blue Cross

Wednesday 24th October Parent's Evening

Tuesday 6th November—Trip to Bishops Wood

Don't forget to visit our school website. This is updated regularly with photographs to show what the children are learning, key dates, copies of letters and other important information. Visit <http://www.hollyhill.bham.sch.uk/>

Traditional Tales



Our topic this half term is Traditional Tales. The children will be introduced to a variety of fiction and non fiction texts this half term. We will be discussing where stories are set and describing the different characters. We will focus heavily on acting out these stories and telling these stories to our friends. We will also become story tellers ourselves and make changes to the traditional tales to create our own stories. Please have a go at making up your own stories based on a traditional tale. We will be encouraging the children to recognise rhyme, familiar words and repeated phrases so that they can begin to read some words on their own.

In **phonics** the children will begin to learn Phase 2 sounds. They will learn that 'phoneme' means the sound a letter makes and 'grapheme' means the written symbol. We will also be learning how to sound talk words to help us read and spell them. Please support your child with learning their sounds by looking for letters in the



environment, identifying them in reading books, playing games such as I spy etc. Sheets will also be sent home to help your child form the letters correctly.

In **Maths** we will be practising our counting skills and helping the children to recognise numbers. We will also be learning about 2D shapes and patterns.

We also look forward to continue getting to know your child and will be encouraging the children to talk about their families and own experiences.

As a Christian school our vision is to promote 'Life in All its Fullness.' Our ethos is based on our 12 Christian values of hope, honesty, patience, joy, forgiveness, tolerance, thankfulness, respect, kindness, friendship, gentleness and love. We actively promote and explicitly teach these values and they underpin everything we do. The children will be taught our values in the following ways this half term:

Friendship - As we all come together and get to know one another we will accurately teach the children how to be good friends. We will learn how to be a good friend and what it feels like when others are good friends to us.

Kindness and Love – Children will learn ways that they can be kind to one another. We will teach children to consider their own actions and use puppets to explore what happens when others are not kind; considering how they can 'put things right'.

Patience — Children will learn to share resources and will learn to wait to take their turn.

Honesty and Forgiveness – Children will learn to say sorry and to be forgiven using the 4 step apology to resolve disagreements.

Respect – The children will be taught how to actively listen to each other and to adults and to show respect for each other's ideas, feelings and opinions. The children will also learn to show respect by looking after equipment and our environment.

Thankfulness – The children will learn that Christians sometimes say prayers to say 'Thank You' as part of their daily routine. We will also learn about Harvest and say Thank You for all of the things we have. We will collect tins and packaged food donations for our local foodbank for our Harvest