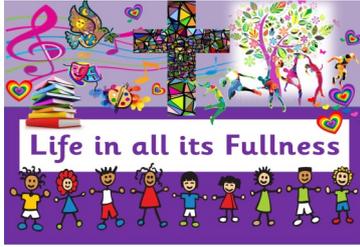


# Reception

# Newsletter



Hello and welcome to our second edition of our Autumn Term Reception Newsletter. We have really enjoyed getting to know your children and yourselves over the past half term.

## 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.**

## Parents Evening

Thank you to the parents who attended parents evening. It was great being able to share your child's work with you and to let you know how they are getting on in school. Thank you to all the parents who made the effort to complete our school questionnaire. We really value your comments. We look forward to meeting again at the next parents open evening on 19th December.

## Homework

Thank you to all of the children who completed their homework tasks. We had some fabulous pieces of work back and these have been shared with the other children in the school. The children take great pride in sharing their work so it is great to be able to do this. Awards have been given for children completing 3 or more of the homework tasks. Unfortunately, there were quite a few homework books not returned and some of the books appear to have not been looked after. There have been a number of studies that have shown how important homework is. It encourages independence, improves thinking and memory skills, helps parents know what their children are learning and helps develop positive learning habits. Please encourage your child to complete their homework and take pride in their work..



## Home Reading

Well done to all of the children who have been reading their reading books. It is clear to see the children who are getting regular practise at home. 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.** 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 be sending home copies of the sounds and words that your children are learning in school. **Please help us to help your child reach their full potential by reading together everyday.**

## 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.**



**Friday 16th November** Children in Need

**19th November** Nursery Rhyme Week

**Tuesday 4th December** Wonder Land Trip

**Thursday 6th December**— Stories around the Christmas tree

**Wednesday 12th December**—Reception Christmas Production & workshop

**Wednesday 12h December** Open Afternoon

**Friday 14th December**—Christmas Jumper & Party Day

**Wednesday 19th December**—Christmas Service

**Thursday 20th December**—Christmas Dinner

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/>

# Celebrations and Festivals

**Our topic this half term is celebrations and festivals.** We are looking forward to teaching the children about all the important festivals and celebrations that take place in the run up to Christmas. The children will learn about Diwali, Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day. We will discuss why we celebrate birthdays and Christmas. Throughout our topic the children will be learning about our Christian values. These will include: exploring the joy celebrations can bring, the value of hope and of course patience by understanding that we have to wait for celebrations and festivities to arrive. We will also be actively promoting tolerance and respect by developing children's understanding that others may have different beliefs or may celebrate the same celebration in different ways.



In **phonics** the children will continue to learn Phase 2 sounds. They will continue to learn how to sound talk words to help them read and spell. 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. Words will be sent home for your children to practise segmenting and blending skills. Tricky words will also be sent out. These are words that cannot be sounded out and need to be learnt by sight. Encourage your children to look out for these words in their reading books.

In **English** the children will start to write words and captions. Please can you encourage the children to write at home and practice forming their alphabet.

In **Maths** we will be describing and naming 2D and 3D shapes. We will continue to recognise and order numbers and will be practising our counting skills. We be finding 1 more and begin to find totals of two groups by counting all of them.

Our Values underpin all that we do and the children will be taught them through the following ways this half term:

**Hope:** The children will learn about hope through the Christmas story.

**Joy:** The children will learn about joy when exploring different celebrations.

**Love:** The children will learn about love through the Christmas story and through sharing about who they are, who is in their lives and who is important to them.

**Patience:** The children will learn about patience through Advent and The Christmas story.

**Gentleness:** The children will learn gentleness through the Nativity story.

**Tolerance:** The children will learn about things and times that are special to them and times that are special to other people. They will begin to learn that other people might think and feel differently to them and learn to listen to other people's ideas; showing tolerance.