

Ducklings and Penguins

Newsletter - Autumn 1



Hello and welcome to the first Year R newsletter of the year. These letters are sent out at the beginning of each half term.

It has been so exciting welcoming you and your children into school. We have enjoyed getting to know them and we are so proud of how well they are settling in.

We all agree that they have had a super first week and we look forward to working with them over the coming year!

Our Reading Scheme

We have already started learning our sounds! We use the 'Read, Write, Inc' phonics scheme to teach reading in our school. We are currently learning a new sound every day.

We will be having an information meeting about our reading scheme on **Thursday 12th October at 9am**. The information from this meeting will be sent home if you are unable to attend. It will explain how we teach in reading in school and how you can support your child at home with reading.

Please be aware we have a NUT ALLERGY in our Year R unit and we ask you to ensure that no nut products are in lunchboxes and to avoid the use of cosmetics/suncreams that may contain nut oils.

Our theme in Autumn 1: All About Me

During the first few weeks of your child's adventure in school, they begin to make friendships, learn the routines of the day, and share their interests and ideas with us.

The children have already loved sharing their 'All About Me' books with their teachers and friends. Please complete and bring them in as soon as possible if you have not already done so as they mean so much to the children.

We build up our daily routines and our day is very focussed on play and allowing the children to lead their own learning. We teach phonics every day from the start and gradually build up our maths and keyworker sessions over the next few weeks. We also share songs and stories every day!

On a Wednesday morning we have Mrs Stewart to teach us PE and we have our library book changing time. On Thursday mornings we have PE. On Friday afternoons we have our Forest Friday sessions outside whatever the weather!

Diary Dates for the Autumn Term:

- *Friday 8th September: All Year R children begin school full time
- *Thursday 12th October 9am: An information meeting about our RWI reading scheme (further details coming soon)
- * Week commencing Monday 16th October:
Parent Evenings: (these will be virtual meetings - further details will be shared nearer the time)
- *Wednesday 18th October 9am: Year R Harvest Festival in the school hall
- * Week commencing Monday 23rd October: Half term - no school
- * Monday 30th October: INSET Day -no children in school
- * Tuesday 31st October: All children back to school
- * Wednesday 6th December 9am: Year R Nativity Performance

This is such an exciting time for you and your children - but it also a huge change and it is very normal for children to be tired and grumpy and out of sorts.

Please come and speak to us if you are worried, but please know you are not alone and we are keen to do what we can to support you and your child with this transition.

Reminders

Please remember it is essential that all children have a pair of wellies and waterproof clothing/mudsuit in school at all times. Our Forest Fridays will start soon and we go out in all weathers!

Children need a named coat in school everyday as we do go out in the rain.

Please make sure all clothing and water bottles are named. We ask that water bottles contain only water, not juice or squash.

P.E. is on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please make sure children wear their PE kits to school on these days. We ask that long hair is tied back and earrings are removed or taped up.

Library books - Wednesdays are Library Day. The children will be taking out one book a week from the school library to share at home. Please ensure this is returned the following Wednesday so it can be exchanged for a new book.

Please may you also send your child in with 2 named photos: one of them as a baby and one of them as a toddler/pre-schooler. We will use these as part of our discussions about how we have grown and changed and will create a piece of work with them.

Please also make sure that your child has brought in their All About Me book - they love sharing these!

As always, come and speak to us if you need us or if you are not sure about something - we will always try our best to help.