

# 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 look forward to an exciting year together!

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### Our themes in Autumn 1: All About Me and Harvest

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 Andrews to teach us PE and Mrs Rigby to teach us music. On Thursday mornings we have PE and it is our library day. On Friday afternoons we have our Forest Friday sessions outside whatever the weather! This alternates between Penguins one week and Ducklings the next.

As we head towards October we will think about harvest time. We will learn about where our food comes from and what the farmers do to grow it. We will make soup and learn some songs to share with you are our Harvest Festival!

## Diary Dates for the Autumn

### Term:

- \*Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September: **All** Year R children begin school full time
- \*Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September: Individual school photos
- \* Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 9am: An information meeting about our RWI reading scheme (further details coming soon)
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 5-6pm: Winter Warmers - come into school for stories and hot chocolate!
- \* Week commencing Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October: Parent Evenings: (these will be virtual meetings - further details will be shared nearer the time)
- \*Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 9am: Year R Harvest Festival in the school hall
- \* Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October: INSET Day - no children in school
- \* Week commencing Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October: Half term - no school
- \* Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November: All children back to school

### Seesaw

Over the next week we will be sending home a piece of paper that has the details you need to log on to your child's Seesaw account.

Seesaw is a way of sharing photos and children's work with you at home. It is free and great way to see what your child is getting up to in school!

## 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 - Thursdays 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 Thursday 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.