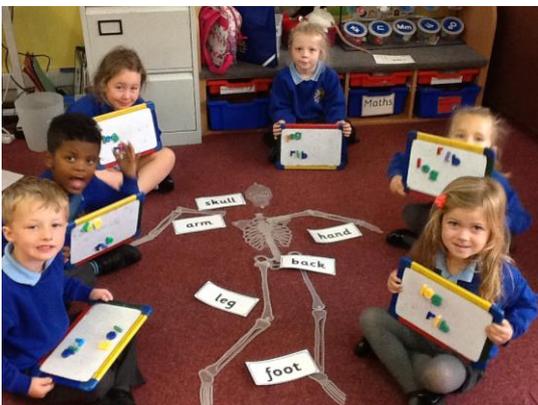




Dear Parents and Children,
We hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful half term holiday. It has been a busy and exciting first term of school for Reception Red and Blue Class. We have loved getting to know the children, here are some of the highlights from our first term.



We have been developing our language skills in our Medical Centre role play areas.



We enjoyed reading the book Funnybones and did some fabulous reading and writing to label a skeleton.



We loved exploring Autumn, both indoors and outdoors!



We loved making hedgehog bread and did a super job of reading the instructions, as well as having a go at writing them for our floor book.



Making magic potions in the Reception garden.

Keep up to date with our activities and news this term by following us on Twitter if you don't already!

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Reading Meeting in September and we look forward to seeing you at Parents' Evening, on the 26th/27th November to share with you the progress your child is making. We will be sending home a survey the week beginning the 19th November. This will give you an opportunity to let us know your opinions on how well your child has settled into school, what you are happy with and any concerns you may have. Please bring the completed survey along with you on Parents' Evening for discussion with your child's Class teacher.



This is always a busy term in school and with Christmas fast approaching we have already started to learn the songs for our Christmas show, "Shine, Star Shine."

We will be sending home costume requirements and any words your child may need to learn, in the next couple of weeks.

Reading

The children are already off to a flying start with their reading. Thank you so much for your support in listening to them read regularly and helping them to learn the words on their word walls.

Your help with this makes a big difference. The more practise the children have, the faster their progress.

A little tip about word wall words.

We have noticed that some children have memorised the word from it's position on the Word Wall and find it difficult to see the word in a different context, e.g. on a flashcard or in a book.

Try writing the words down, draw boxes around the words, to encourage your child to look at the shape (which letters are small/tall)

You could make bingo games. If you would like a second copy of any word wall so that you could play a matching game or pairs with the words, do let us know.

Our topic this half term is Traditional Tales, which the children always thoroughly enjoy. We are focusing on a different story each week, but we would also love the children to experience as many Traditional Tales as possible.

We will be reading and writing about, The Gingerbread Man, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears and The 3 Little Pigs. We would appreciate you reading other Traditional Tales to your child. If you would like to borrow any books from, us do let us know.

As well as sharing Traditional Tales with your child at home, we would like to invite you to come in to school and share Traditional Tales with the children.

On **Friday the 23rd of November** we are inviting Parents, Grandparents and Carers to come into Reception from 2.50 -3.10pm to read Traditional Tales to the children.

Staff will also be sitting with groups of children to share stories during this time and all children will get the chance to participate. We have many books in school for you to read, but if you have any old favourites of your own, please do bring them in.

Christmas/ Winter Craft Morning

We would also like to invite you to a stay and play morning on **Friday 7th December**. We will have lots of exciting Christmas and Winter themed activities and crafts to enjoy with your child. Details will follow at a later date.

Weather/ Uniform

With the weather beginning to turn cold it is important that all children have a warm/waterproof coat, gloves, a hat and wellington boots, as we will endeavour to get outside as much as we can to use the Outdoor area and Reception Garden.

Please also ensure that every item of your child's uniform, including their hats, gloves and coats are clearly named. Missing clothing is much more likely to be returned to you if it is named.

Yoga

As well as our regular PE lessons we sometimes have the opportunity to work with visiting coaches.

This half term we are lucky enough to be having a taster session with Julie Cragg from Yogabugs on Thursday 15th November.

Outdoor Area

We have ordered some equipment for our outdoor area with some money kindly donated by the PTFA.

We are also hoping to raise more money throughout the year to develop this area further. We will keep you updated.

Toys

Please, please leave all toys at home. Some children are repeatedly bringing in a toy every day, including colouring sets. This is causing lots of problems and will result in things being broken and lost. We have plenty to play with in school.

We are usually available before and after school to speak to parents so please do not hesitate to pop in and see us if you have any queries or concerns. Alternatively, you could write a note or leave a message with the school office and we will get back to you ASAP.

With your continued support, I am sure that we will have another successful and exciting half term ahead of us.

Many Thanks

The Early Years Team

