

Friday 13th January 2023

News and Reminders

It has been lovely to see the children back at school after their break. We hope you all had a peaceful and relaxing holiday. On behalf of all the staff in Reception we would like to thank you for your lovely cards and kind gifts.

World Book Day and Special Visitors

As you will have seen from the School Newsletter, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March.

In addition to this we are so lucky to have Dan Tastic Education visiting the Reception class to hold a Fairy Tale Workshop on Wednesday 1st March. Children will be able to dress up as their favourite fairy tale character on that day. Please don't rush out to buy a costume as there are lots of fairy tale characters who are children just like yours. For example, think of Jack from Jack and the Beanstalk. Thanks to the Generosity of the Griffin Trust, this workshop will be free to all children in Reception.

Spirituality

We have started this half term looking at bible stories and some Muslim stories for children. We have been discussing the different beliefs that differing religions have and talking about how we respect other people's beliefs.

Our value for this half term is LOVE. We have been talking about how we can show love to each other by being kind. We are also practising All You Need Is Love (Beatles) in our singing assemblies. It would be lovely if you could practise this at home too.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWP80rXP4cM>

Clubs

The children were very excited to start the clubs this week, as were Miss Smith and Mrs Moore! Please remember that our clubs finish at **4:00PM**. If you have a child who is in another club that finishes later, you must still collect your child from us at 4:00pm. This is so that our collection area is clear by the time the next club is finished. If you do not collect your children on time on more than one occasion, then they will be asked to leave the club.

Spare Clothes

As often happens in Reception, children do get their clothes wet for one reason or another. Although we carry a small supply of spare pants, socks, tights, trousers, skirts and dresses we now have barely any spare clothes. If your child has come home wearing some of our spare clothes we would greatly appreciate it if you could wash the clothes and return them as soon as possible.

In addition, if you have some school clothes or underwear and socks/tights that are in good condition and no longer fit your children, we would very much appreciate them.

If we do not have spare clothes to children we will either have to send them home in their wet clothes or telephone you to bring a change of clothes in for them.

Junk Modelling

We have a junk modelling box which the children have free access to during our Learning to Play time and this is a very popular activity. If you have any dry, clean boxes or plastic bottles that the children could use, please do send them in in a small plastic bag. If we have too great a response we will let you know as we don't really have anywhere to store additional supplies.

The Giving Tree

There are lots of resources that we tend to go through at an alarming rate and when we have asked for donations in the past we have sometimes been overwhelmed, especially as we don't always have a lot of storage space.

Each Friday we will put a noticeboard outside of both Ash and Alder classroom. This will have post-its on with one item that we would be grateful to have donated. It is really important that you only take ONE post-it at a time and only provide one of the item you have selected. These requests may be for a bag of plain flour or a bag of nappy sacks. We appreciate that the cost of living is going up and we realise that not everyone will be able to help us out so please do not feel you have to take a post-it.

We will be trialling this next week so if you have any questions please ask us at pick-up time.

Homework

Reading

Depending on which phonics group the children are in, they will have their books or worksheets given out at different times by their phonics teacher. Children who are still in groups 1a, 1b and 1c will continue to receive picture books which will be changed when they have read them three times at home. In addition to this they will receive a sheet on a Friday with the words that have been practised in class.

Purple Mash

This week's activity is to look at the things that we do at night and the things that we do during the day.

Homework can be printed off to cut and paste the pictures. Take a photograph of your finished pictures and upload it to PurpleMash.

Numbots

We are opening the Numbots programme to the Reception children this term. This is an interactive maths programme which we have found very useful in the past for supporting children's number recall.

We have shown the children a short video to explain how to login and your child will have brought home a login sheet with their username and password. As children progress, they receive certificates which are handed out in our weekly Celebration Assembly. We hope you enjoy it as much as our previous classes have done.

Our Learning

Our focus this half term is Our Diverse World.

We have been looking at how different religions believe our world was created this week and thinking about what makes our world so precious. We will be looking at the different environments in our world and finding out about all the animals that live in them and what makes them such special places. Our literacy focus will be non-fiction so if you are able to find out an amazing fact about the world, the savannahs or the animals that live there you can record it on. This is optional.

In maths we are looking at how different parts add together to make a whole thing. At home, if you are doing puzzles, please discuss the language of parts and the whole. The children are getting very good at identifying the parts of things and the whole thing they came from.

Open Sessions for Parents- A Scarecrow Wedding

As part of Our Diverse World topic we will be looking at different celebrations and reading the book The Scarecrow's Wedding by Julia Donaldson. On Thursday, 2nd February at 9am we will be hosting our very own Scarecrows' Wedding and would like to invite you along. This will take place in the Hall and children should come into school dressed for a wedding. After the ceremony, we will have a Wedding Breakfast of cakes that the children made the day before and juice. As always younger children will not be able to attend.

Christian Value awards:

Alder
Love: Liv

Ash
Love: Tiger Lily

Diary Dates

Forest School (please come into school wearing Forest School kit and bring spares): Friday for both Ash and Alder

PE (please come in to school wearing PE kit): Ash: Wednesday Alder: Thursday

Please make sure all hair is tied up and earrings are taken out or tape is put over the top.

Library: Alder class: Monday Ash class: Thursday

Key dates

Parents' Open Event - A Scarecrows' Wedding - Thursday, 2nd February 2023

Children's Mental Health Week - 6th-12th February 2023

Spring Disco (details to follow from FOBS) - Thursday 9th February 2023

