



Class One Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 2017

Welcome back! I hope you all had a fantastic half term and enjoyed a little bit of autumnal sunshine! It's hard to believe that we are already in our second half term; where does the time go? All the children are used to our routines and so settled: it's wonderful! This is my favourite half term of the year, but it's a long one so there will (sadly) be no glitter in the classroom until 1st December!

This half term we will continue our science work all about ourselves. Many thanks for all the baby and toddler photos you have sent in. If you haven't already seen it, please do come and take a look at our photo board. Your children look absolutely gorgeous. Alongside this work, one of the books we will be reading is 'Avacado Baby'. This will then go into our basket of special books that we revisit again and again in class. These core books create 'a living library inside a child's mind'. In case you would like to read any of these at home, the books we have shared so far include:

- Owl Babies
- The Gruffalo
- Rosie's Walk
- Mrs Armitage On Wheels
- Mr Gumpy's Outing
- Farmer Duck
- The Tiger Who Came To Tea
- Cops And Robbers

Our whole school Big Idea this half term is Festivals of Light. In Class One we are spending the first week learning about Bonfire Night, including a fire safety talk from the fire service, and the second week back finding out all about Diwali. We will also find out about Hanukkah and listen to, and discuss, some important stories from Christianity and Islam. Later in the term, we will, of course, be learning all about the meaning of Christmas and the different ways in which it is celebrated.

Our PSHCE this half term is how to stay safe, including road, water and fire safety as well as how to stay safe at school and at home.

All our Reception and Year 1 children will continue to have daily phonics sessions and a 'to and fro' phonics pack with current and previous sound and word cards in. It would be great if you could spend a few minutes an evening practising these with your child. I also highly recommend watching Jolly Phonics Songs in order on Youtube for practising sounds. But be warned, once heard, those songs will stay with you! Please note that children are not expected to know the names of the letters of the alphabet until Year 1 once they know all the letter sounds! Our Year 2 children have now moved on to daily spelling sessions in line with the national curriculum; these sessions include a variety of activities including writing dictated sentences (again in line with the national curriculum), handwriting practice and wordsearches (because they are fun!).

We will continue to use the school hall as often as possible for PE this half term so please keep your child's PE kit in school all week. Swimming continues every Friday. Our Year 1 and Year 2 children will be taking part in an Infant Agility competition at Nidderdale High soon - a detailed letter will follow. Miss Brammah will accompany them and I will spend the afternoon with our Reception boys. 😊

If you would like to catch up with what we have been doing in class, please come in with your child on a Friday morning from 8.45 for an informal chat and look around. Certificate assembly follows this at 9.05 am and parents are welcome every week. Unfortunately we are unable to speak with parents after this assembly as it is then the children's learning time.

Homework

Year 1 and Year 2 spellings will continue to be sent home every Wednesday ready for a quiz the following Monday.

Year 2 Maths homework is handed out every Thursday. In addition to periodic home learning task, for this half term we would like the Year 1 and Reception children to continue working with you on their Maths passports. This helps consolidate the work we do in school. Thank you. We do check passports regularly but children will only be 'signed off' when they can complete a task three times. Across school we are trying to really instil key number facts that will then support with later learning.

This year we have a class who absolutely love books, so many thanks to everyone for not just reading with your child, but also commenting on it in the reading records.



If you would like any further information, or if you have any queries about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak with either of us.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Aldridge and Mrs Issitt

