

## Autumn Newsletter 2024

Welcome back to this Autumn Term. The children have been fantastic at settling in and have returned to school looking very smart and ready to learn. A special welcome to our new Foundation stage children who are proving to be independent and eager to come into school every morning. A super start! Well done to you all! Also well done to the Year 1 and 2 children who are showing patience and kindness towards the younger members of the class.

### Reading/Phonics

Year 1 and 2 children will receive a phonics session, which includes a whole class read 4 times a week. This involves revision and coverage of the full range of phonic sounds required to pass the Phonic Screening Test, which will take place for Year 1 children in May/June 2025. During this daily session, we also cover grammar and punctuation, sentence structure and word meanings. Ditty Books (Read Write Inc) are used during these sessions and most children will bring home the book they have covered in school at some point during the week. The children are arranged in groups, to allow appropriate strategies to be taught. This means the books can all be changed at the same time. Children with more advanced phonic skills who don't require a Ditty Book will be given a reading comprehension task. Alongside the Ditty Book children will have an individual reading book which is levelled by The Book Band System. These books are changed 2 times a week (Monday and Friday) and comments from reading at home are appreciated, as they provide valuable information towards keeping your child on the correct level book.

Foundation Stage children will also receive a shorter phonics session 4 times a week. They will be encouraged to identify initial sounds and form letters correctly. They will be taught to segment and blend sounds to decode words and to recognise irregular words such as I, the, said, go. Once they have the skills, they will also receive a Ditty Book, which initially will be changed as frequently as required. In addition to this they will bring home a story book of their choice to share with you. An important part of your job is to model how books are handled and how the pictures as well as the words provide information. Have an in-depth conversation with your child and try to get them to use as much vocabulary as possible and to discuss in detail why and what is happening in the story.

Other aspects of English will be taught through our school curriculum, which allows links to be made with Science, History and Geography topics. Please see attached grids for suggested learning outcomes.

## Maths

We will be using the White Rose Maths scheme and looking at:

\* Number and Place Value. (Some children will be working on numbers to 10, some to 20 and some to 100+).

\* Addition and Subtraction.

\* 2D and 3D shapes

## Topics

Please see attached grid for coverage of Topics.

History - What was my grandparents' childhood like?

<b>Key knowledge</b>
<b>Know how different their grandparents' childhood was compared to their own</b>
Know what their grandparents' toys were like
Know how different their grandparents' school days were
Know how their grandparents used to shop
Know what their grandparents would have eaten
Know how grandparents celebrated their birthdays or enjoyed holidays

## Science - How do Seasons change?

<b>Key knowledge</b>
<b>Know the main differences between the four seasons</b>
Know the names of the four seasons
Know the type of weather normally associated with the four seasons
Know that we have longer periods of daylight in summer and shorter periods of daylight in winter
Know that different parts of the world have their summer and winter at different times to us
Know that temperature varies during the different seasons

## P.E

Children should come to school in P.E kits on Tuesday and Thursday.

Please could we remind you that absolutely everything should be labelled with your child's name? This includes jumpers, coats, water bottles and any snack containers that you wish to be returned home.

Parents' evening appointments will be available later in the term to discuss how your child is settling but please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or worries. We are trying to encourage children to become independent so if you are returning a letter to school or have written a note for me in the diary, could you remind your child to get it out of their book bag and place it in the basket just inside the classroom door? This is particularly aimed at Year 1 and 2! (We will check Foundation book bags)

Many Thanks

Lisa Hammond