

Topic Letter Autumn 2

Dear Parents

Wow - we have already completed half a term at school and all of the children have settled in very well and are coping with all the new routines.

This half term is always exciting and busy for the children and we have lots of lovely events happening for example: WW1 week, Our Nativity, Christmas Fayre and the whole school will be having a special treat to the Atkinson Theatre to see the panto.

Our new topic for this half term is 'Who is Julia Donaldson?'

Julia Donaldson is the author of *The Gruffalo*, *Room on the Broom* and many more children's stories and so this exciting topic will give us lots of opportunities to look at different stories by the same author.

This is how our weeks will plan out!

- Room on The Broom
- Where the Poppies now grow
- The Gruffalo
- The Gruffalo's Child
- What the Ladybird Heard
- The Smeds and the Smoos
- Stick Man
- Christmas story 'The Nutcracker' and letters to Santa

Each week we teach the theme through a story and this is then followed through in the classroom, for example: In week 3, it is *The Gruffalo* so we will read the story and the children will learn to listen and join in with the story. We will make a *Gruffalo* café or a *Gruffalo's* cave where the children can role play some of the story, we will count *Gruffalos* and so on.....The topic is flexible and we do listen to the children and their likes and include these into our planning as we did in the first half term.



The children will continue with daily phonics sessions. We made a great start to learning the phonemes and tricky words in phase 2. We will shortly be assessing what the children know and moving on accordingly. The children are beginning to blend and segment for reading and spelling. It would be beneficial if you could help your child practise the sounds by continuing to complete sound folder work, write words an. Don't

Topic Letter Autumn 2

worry id practise their handwriting. If your child is still learning the phonemes this is perfectly fine; we like to ensure that children work at their level and consolidate their understanding before moving on. We support the children individually in their writing tasks and differentiate their work accordingly.



Home reading books will continue to be sent out on the days as last term, please listen to your child read as often as you can and add a comment in the reading record. It would be beneficial if you could keep looking at the key word vocabulary in the books and help your child learn high frequency words that are in them. It would also be of great benefit to help your child practise writing their name in the cursive style. We are starting a busy fingers group and activity table to encourage children to develop their fine motor skills, activities like cutting, playing with playdough, using tweezers to pick up small objects helps the children develop their fine motor skills to support writing.



In this second half term we will be introducing many new aspects in maths: They are as follows so you can support your child's learning at home where possible. We will continue to look at numbers within 10, recognising, ordering and writing the numerals. continue with subitising and so much more. We will find out about properties of 2D shapes circles, triangles and squares. We will continue to look at the composition of numbers within 5 to ensure that the children have a strong number sense.



PE kits- We will continue with our PE sessions on a Thursday so please could you send back into school PE t-shirt, shorts and black pumps in a bag to leave them in your child's locker. Please make sure they are all named.

Bits and bobs!!

- Please could you make sure that all clothing is named, especially cardigans and jumpers.

Topic Letter Autumn 2

Thanks for all your help and support and it is great to see the children settling in. It is the term that leads us up to Christmas, so in Reception we will be having lots of fun times learning stories, singing songs and making Christmas goodies, if you have anything that you could send into school for us to use we would be most grateful. Please come and find us if you need to ask or talk about anything.

With Regards

Mrs Hothersall, Mrs Mesghali and Miss Radcliffe

THE EYFS TEAM