



Parent/Carer notes - Autumn Term 2 2023



Acorn Class

Dear Parents,

Our topic for Term 2 is 'Sparkle and Shine - Let's Celebrate.'

This term we will explore different celebrations that take place in Autumn and Winter, focusing on the significance and symbolism of light at this time of year. We will take part in a variety of creative activities and discover more about how Christmas, Diwali and Hanukkah are celebrated around the world.

Supporting your child at home

- Talk about special events that you celebrate at home.
- Share photos of events that you celebrate.
- Talk about how you prepare for special celebrations including the clothes you wear, food you prepare and gifts you give or receive.
- Share and discuss the; Did you know? resource.

Homework:

Reading books: As children begin to decode and blend, they will be bringing home books with words in (how exciting!). These books will have been read three times at school focussing on:-

Read 1: Decoding and Blending - teaching children the ability to apply their knowledge of letter-sound relationships to correctly pronounce written words.

Read 2: Prosody - teaching children to read with understanding and expression.

Read 3: Comprehension - teaching children to understand the text.

Reading books will have been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please do not worry that it is too easy - your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book **many times**. Remember to give them lots of praise - celebrate their success! If they cannot read a word, read it to them, by modelling how to decode and blend. After they have finished, talk about the book together. Don't forget to colour in one star each time you read the **reading book** together.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE BIG CAT READING PRACTICE BOOKS ARE RETURNED ON A MONDAY IN ORDER FOR ANOTHER GROUP TO USE THEM FOR MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY'S READING PRACTICE SESSIONS.

Phonics Books: The pink phonics books are updated each Thursday/Friday with the new sounds we have learned in school during the course of the week. Please encourage your child to say the sound; teach you the formation phrase for writing the letter; find objects around the house that begin with the initial sound; trace over the letter; write the letter. I enjoy rainbow writing - write the letter in as many different colours as you have. There is a space in the pink phonics books for your child to practise writing the graphemes (letters).

Last term, I added our Term 1 decodable words and Tricky Word list to both Seesaw and the pink phonics books. I will continue to do this. Please practise reading these words **as often as possible**. Challenge, ask your child to orally spell the words out for you and try writing them.

Mrs Philpott's Library

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The **sharing book** is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to, or with them. Discuss the pictures; enjoy the story; predict what might happen next; use different voices for the characters; explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

These books will go home on a Friday and are to be returned the following Friday in order for the children to choose another book. Many of these books are my own, so I request that they are handled with care please!

Numbots

I have issued all children with log-ins for Numbots, which can be found in their reading diaries.

PE Kit:

Our PE session (when we change) is Wednesday afternoon. To ensure that all children can fully participate in PE lessons, please ensure that they have their 'named' PE kits in school throughout the term, earrings are removed or taped and hair tied back.

The correct PE kit includes:

PE: House Group coloured T-Shirt, blue shorts and plimsolls.

Please refer to the Autumn Term 2 Medium Term Plan for more information about what your child will be learning this term.

As the weather will be getting considerably colder this term, please ensure that children have a warm coat, preferably with a hood, as we will be using the outside area in all weathers. Also, they will require a pair of wellies to be left in school so we can go splashing in puddles and/or play in the snow if we are lucky enough to have any this year.

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to either speak to me at the end of the day, when I will be on the playground; leave a message with one of the Teaching Assistants at the playground gate, or a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will be on the playground in the mornings; or message me on SeeSaw.

With kind regards,

Glenda Philpott

Acorn Class Teacher/EYFS Lead

Important Dates

Return to School:	Wednesday 1 st November
Children in Need:	Friday 17 th November (more information to follow)
Flu Immunisation:	Wednesday 22 nd November
Class visit to St Mary's Church:	Thursday 23 rd November (10am-11:30am)
Christmas Pantomime - Cinderella :	Friday 24 th November (in school)
Walk to South Darenth Post Office	Date to be confirmed (WC 4 th December)
Christmas Jumper Day:	Friday 8 th December
KS1 Nativity to parents:	Tuesday 12 th December (2pm TBC)
KS1 Nativity to parents:	Wednesday 13 th December (9:30am TBC)
Christmas Lunch:	Wednesday 13 th December
Christmas Party:	Friday 15 th December (more information to follow)
Show and Share this term's work:	Tuesday 19 th December (Parents invited in to Acorn Class from 2:30pm)
Term Ends @ 2.15pm:	Wednesday 20 th December (2:15pm)
Return to school for Term 3	Monday 8 th January 2024