

November 2023



Dear Duty Bearers,

Welcome back, we hope you have had an enjoyable half term break. I wanted to take this opportunity to say how proud we are of all the children for a successful first term at school. Everyone has settled in incredibly well. We are now looking forward to the run up to Christmas and all the excitement that entails.

Let's Celebrate!

This week we will be learning about Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Light, and Remembrance Sunday. The children will take part in lots of creative activities such as drawing chalk Rangoli patterns outside and creating Diva lamps from clay.

We will then base our activities around birthdays and other celebrations and before we know it, it will be Christmas time! Our theme for our Personal, Social, Emotional Development is 'Celebrating Difference' where we will learn about similarities and differences between people.

Celebrations

The children have chosen to learn about celebrations such as birthdays. This gives us lots of learning opportunities such as role-play birthday parties, writing invitations, creating birthday cards, wrapping presents and making decorations.

Christmas

Over the term we will be thinking about 'What is Christmas?' We will be talking about giving and sharing and we are looking forward to finding out about each child's Christmas traditions. If your child doesn't celebrate Christmas then we are looking forward to hearing about what events they do celebrate. The children will be busy making Christmas crafts such as cards, decorations and calendars. We will also be preparing for our Christmas performance.



Role-play Area

This term the children will continue to access the home corner and have chosen to have a role-play Gift Shop (which will then turn into a Christmas Workshop).

If you have anything at home (or work) that you could donate for these areas, or know of someone else who can, it would be greatly appreciated.



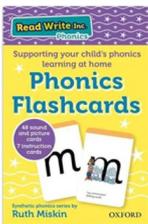
If you have any other great ideas to those listed below, please do send them in.

Home Corner	Christmas Workshop
Magazines, birthday decorations, invites, cards, gift bags, gift boxes or wrapping paper. Wooden food, jugs, baskets or utensils.	Wrapping paper, used/ unwanted cards, gift bags, tinsel, toy brochures/catalogues or anything Christmassy!

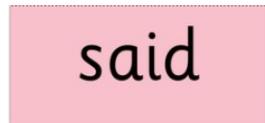
We will be revising the single letter Speed Sounds Set 1, aiming for all children to be able to read and write each sound. We will also teach the following 'Special Friends': **ch, qu, sh, th, ng** and **nk**. If your child is not yet independently blending sounds together to read three letter words they will continue to work on *Word Time* using our magnetic letters and boards. If your child is independently blending they will continue to practise reading green words using 'Fred talk' and move on to reading 'Ditties'. **We will send each photocopied ditty home to be read again with you.**



The children will also be learning to spell using their 'Fred Fingers'. Before learning Speed Sounds Set 2 the children will learn to blend four letter words to read e.g. trap, jump, best.



Once your child is blending sounds to read we will send home the first set of **red words** (remember it is harder to Fred a red!) **to learn by memory at home**. When they are ready we will send home a Sound Blending Book to practise their Fred talk.



Please continue to support your child by helping them practise their sounds at home. It can be helpful to buy a pack of Set 1 sounds. You can use them as flashcards as well as putting sounds together to make words to read.

Mathematics– Number and Numerical Patterns

This term the children will learn different ways to represent 1-5 as well as learning to find/say one more/one less than a number.

We will explore 2D shapes: circles, triangles, squares and rectangles. We will also discuss positional language and everyday vocabulary linked to time.

In addition to the daily maths input the children also have a Mastering Number session where they practise accurate counting and subitising small amounts.



Ways to represent 5:

Key Representations

How Can You Help?

- We love it when you send in 'craft bits' or old rolls of wallpaper for the children to use and be creative with. Any left over birthday cards, wrapping paper or party invites would also be appreciated.

Tapestry

I hope you are enjoying seeing what your child has been experiencing at school. We love to see what your child has been doing at home too. We would encourage you to add your WOW moments to your child's account. If you are using the app you are able to click on the + sign in the right hand corner to add an observation and if you are on the website you can select 'Add an observation'. You can write a note, add a photo or upload a video. If you need any help with this please ask.

Outdoor Area/Spare clothes



We continue to access our outdoor area in all weathers so it would be useful if you could send in a set of spare clothes (including socks/tights) for your child. We do have school sets but often children prefer their own. Please can you also make sure any items your child borrows is returned.

Thank you for all of your support.

We hope that you and your child have a great second term. It should be very exciting with the lead up to Christmas and I am sure many happy memories will be made!

Please do not hesitate to come and see us with any queries or concerns, no matter how small you may think they are.

Thank you,

Mrs Ellis, Mrs Hudson and Mrs Nickson