



Reception Class Newsletter



The children enjoyed our Harvest celebrations last week and have created a wonderful Autumn display with objects collected during our Autumn walk. Thank you for the wonderful collections of conkers, chestnuts and leaves brought in from home. A giant pumpkin grown at Amblecote Allotments has created lots of excitement! We have made our own apple juice and had lots of fun on Forest Fridays. Parents were invited to an EYFS and a Phonics workshop and enjoyed watching the Reception children perform brilliantly in their first assembly.

After half term Reception class will have a busy time ahead learning all about festivals and celebrations. We will begin the half term learning about bonfire night and Diwali. We will then learn about light and dark and look forward to a visit from the road safety officer.



My Home

The children will be learning about different types of houses and homes this week. Please email a photograph of your house/ flat (or bring a named photograph to school) for the children to share during our circle time on Thursday.

Sponsored Treasure Hunt

Reception class will be taking part in a treasure hunt in school on Thursday. We will then be sending a Treasure Hunt for you to complete over half term. A sponsor form will be attached and money raised will be spent by the children helping us to add to our small world and investigation areas. Last year we raised over £400!

Reading and Phonics

All children need to bring their book bag containing their reading book, reading diary and phonics folder on a daily basis. Please **do not** place water bottles in book bags as they often leak. Please try to share a book with your child everyday (10 minutes is great) and write comments in their diary, as this is vital for their progression. Reading books will be issued during the course of next half term when your child is working securely within phase 2 of the Letters and Sounds programme. Information about your child's progress will be shared at parents evening. Phonics folders will be collected in on Thursdays to allow staff to read parent comments and update folders ready to be given out on Fridays.

Parents as Partners

Notice Board

A weekly activity sheet is displayed on the Reception class window that will inform you of the proposed activities for the week; this will include any special events, home links and visitors. We have received information for Stourbridge Family Centre with details of weekly activity sessions- please see the posters and leaflets for more information.

We value parent feedback and so will be implementing a few changes **after** half term.

- Reception children will make weekly visits to the school library after half term- this will replace the book change with parents on Friday mornings.

- Please place completed Wow moments in the basket on the table outside the reception door (in a morning). Blank WOW notes for you to take and fill out will also be available here.
- Letters you may have missed will be located here also.
- All other letters/ reply slips must be handed to the member of staff on the door.
- Any messages in a morning must be passed on to the member of staff on the door/in the corridor. All messages are passed on to class teachers.
- Children in RS (Miss Smith's class) will be handed over to parents **at the door**. The black gate will be open to allow parents with pushchairs easy access to the door.
- A Parent's suggestions box will be available for you to add any comments.

School Newsletters

An information letter is put on the school website on the first Friday of the month and a celebration newsletter two weeks later. A hard copy is available on request.

Reception class Fund



We urge all parents to donate £1.00 per week please so that we can continue with cooking and provide a range of different foods at Snack Café. Voluntary contributions can be paid half termly (£7) or weekly on Monday mornings. Thank you.

We will begin next half term baking jacket potatoes for bonfire night then make vegetable curry linked to our Diwali celebrations.

Stories at Bedtime Event

Thursday 19th November, 5.15-6.00pm

Children are invited to come to school in their pyjamas with their teddy to listen to share stories with mum or dad and listen to stories read by staff.

There will be refreshments for children and their families during the event.

Tickets will be available for a Book Raffle (£1 a strip) to be drawn at the end of both event.

Free Book Time packs will be distributed when they arrive in school (any time during November).



Reception Class Clubs

Art club will be starting on **Thursday 12th November, 3.15-4.15pm** for children in Reception class. This will run for five weeks. **Football club** will run in the Spring Term led by a Football Coach (dates to be confirmed) and **Wildlife Club** will run in the Summer Term.

Clubs are priced at £2 a session to cover resources/ materials.

Places are limited so please return the reply slip below indicating your child's preference.

Forest Fridays

All children will need wellies and a warm, waterproof coat after half term as we go out in all weather. Please label all hats, scarves, gloves and wellies with your child's name.



Celebrations

Diwali

Diwali is celebrated by Hindus in India and all around the world in October or November. It is a very exciting and colourful holiday. Homes are cleaned to welcome the New Year and windows are opened so that the Hindu goddess of wealth, Lakshmi, can enter. It is believed that she cannot enter a house which is not lit up, so every household burns special Diwali clay lamps (diyas) to light the way for the goddess, which is why the holiday is also known as the Festival of Lights. Children have a holiday from school. Presents are given and delicious holiday food is prepared and exchanged. New clothes and jewellery are worn. Parties are held, and **dice** and **card games** are played. Fireworks and firecrackers are set off to warn off evil spirits, so it is a noisy holiday too!



POPPIES

Poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day will be on sale in school after half term, all contributions are welcomed.

Christmas Play

Yes it's already time to think about turkey and tinsel! The children will soon be learning the songs and words for our Nativity play. Once all parts have been given we will notify you of which 'character' your child is and what parts of the costume you need to supply. We aim to give this information as early as possible to give you plenty of time to find any bits needed.

Christmas Trip

This year we will be organising a trip for the Reception children to meet Santa at The Bonded Warehouse. This is planned to take place on Friday 11th December at a cost of £8 per child. Letters with full details will be issued after half term.

Dates for Diary

Wednesday 4th November	SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) Workshop for Parents, 9.05am
Week Beg. 9th November	Phonic demonstration lessons for parents who attended the phonics Workshop. (Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.05-9.45am)
Thurs 12th November	Art Club commences, 3.14-4.15pm
Thurs 19th November	Stories at Bedtime event for children and parents @ 5.15pm-6.00pm
Wednesday 2nd December	Reception class Card Workshop with Parents, 2pm
Thurs 10th December	Reception class Christmas Play for parents 9.30am
Fri 11th December	Reception Class Christmas trip to <i>The Bonded Warehouse</i>
Fri 18th December	End of Term

Can we please remind you that toys and games should not be brought to school in case they get lost or broken.

Thank you for your continued help and support. If you have any questions then please ask a member of staff, we are always happy to help.

The Reception Class team

Reception Class Clubs

Name of Child

Each club will run for 5 weeks at a cost of £10 (payable prior to the club commencing.)

Please indicate (in order of preference) which club your child would like to attend.

Autumn	Art Club	
Spring	Football Club	
Summer	Wildlife Club	

Signed

