

Hedgehogs Class Newsletter Term 2

Welcome back to school for an incredibly busy Term 2! Here's some dates for your diaries for this upcoming term;

3rd and 4th November – Parent Consultation Evenings
4th November – PE starts in Hedgehogs (PE kit worn all day)
13th November – Children in Need
16th November – Travelling Book Fair after school in Hall
25th November – Photographer for individual portraits
7th December – Nativity Dress Rehearsal
8th and 9th December – Nativity Shows to Parents (more details to follow)
11th December – PTA Christmas event
17th December – PTA Panto
19th December – Last Day of Term

Please keep checking on emails for letters from the school and on Tapestry for any further dates.

This Terms Topic

Our topic this term is 'Let's Celebrate'. We will cover Diwali, Spooky Season and Bonfire Nights, Remembrance Day, Birthdays, Hanukah and Christmas. During this topic we will learn that different cultures celebrate different events. We will also learn that we may celebrate the same events differently to each other and learn to be respectful to these differences.

If you have any photos of you and your family celebrating something special such as Birthdays, Halloween, Weddings then please upload them to your child's Tapestry for us to display along with a quote from your child about the photo.

RWI

We have done very well at learning our Set 1 Sounds so far and will continue to do so over this term. During a RWI lesson we are introduced to our daily sound, what it looks and sounds like, how to sign the sound using cued articulation and to write the sound. We also practise our oral blending using Fred the Frog.

We will begin to have word time groups where we use magnetic letters to make cvc words such as sat, tap, pit etc. We then practise reading these words by sounding them out using Fred Talk.

All children have been assessed and will now be working in more specific reading groups. Please continue to practise recognising and writing the sounds we send home. This could include making short words.

Literacy

During Literacy this term we will continue to focus on giving meanings to the marks we make when we draw and write. As we learn more sounds we will focus on hearing and writing the initial, middle and end sound we can hear in words.

Maths

In Maths this term we will be focussing on numbers within 5. We will learn different ways to represent the different numbers, how they differ and how we can compose quantities within this range. We will continue to work on our subitising skills and recognising the different patterns of numbers.

We will have the opportunity to label firework pictures, write invitations and send celebration cards.

We will also be using religious stories such as the story of Rama and Sita to sequence; role play and develop a character voice.

Within our Get Busy Time we will explore and make patterns by making symmetrical Rangoli patterns and making patterned fireworks. We will also explore 4-sided shapes, and sequencing events in a day and/or week.

Drawing Club

You will see on our weekly Tapestry posts that we mention what we are doing in Drawing Club. We use Drawing Club as the vehicle to develop the children's writing skills over the year. At the start of the year, as the name suggests, we'll begin to develop our children's fine motor skills by drawing pictures from the text we are exploring that week. We also introduce key vocabulary that is drawn from the story alongside an action to help us remember it.

We always start the week by drawing a character and a setting from the story. We head into Adventure Time from Wednesday where the children use their imagination to create a new theme, object or character. Their drawings act as a conversation starter to talk about what their picture means to them.

They will then choose a 'code' of numbers, letters, words or even sentences to bring magic to the drawing with their creative ideas!

Request for Resources

To support our continuous provision, we would love to receive any donations such as:

Clear hair gel
Kitchen roll tubes (no toilet rolls please)
Plain paper plates
Shaving Foam
Nuts and Bolts
Spring Bulbs or winter plants for our garden.

Snacks

Please ensure snacks are in a named container and that it is a healthy snack which is in line with our school policy (fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, dried Fruit *(plain, no toppings or coatings), p*lain Breadsticks *(nut/sesame seed free),* cream crackers, bread - white/brown bread, pitta, bagel ONLY *(nut/sesame seed free)*. Please note that **only butter or margarine** is allowed as a topping on bread and cream crackers. School fruit / vegetable snacks are available in the afternoon. If children bring a water bottle to school please ensure that it only contains water, anything other than water will be emptied. Water is available all day.

PE

We're excited to be starting PE this term. Our PE day is Wednesday with our first lesson on the 4th of November. Please ensure your child comes to school dressed in their PE kit and trainers, long hair is tied back and all jewellery, including earrings, is removed.

Home Learning

Each term we will upload a Home Learning Bingo Card to Tapestry for you to complete across the term. These are optional and can make a fantastic Tapestry observation of what your child is able to do at home. We will also continue to send home the letter sounds we have covered in class each Friday.

As well as our Home Learning Bingo Card you can also work on developing your child's fine motor skills, which are essential for them to develop the muscles to write and draw. These activities can be easy to do with everyday objects such as rolling and squeezing play dough, putting dry spaghetti through the holes in a colander, threading dry pasta onto a shoe lace etc. Pinterest has some amazing ideas as does the hashtag #finemotoractivities on Instagram.

Uniform

We've been at school for a whole term now so please do check that school uniform is still clearly labelled with your child's name. Labelling your child's items helps us return it to the rightful owner quickly. This includes your child's PE kit. Please encourage your child to look after their items and to place jumpers into their book bags and coats onto their pegs to keep them safe.

As per our School Uniform Policy, we politely remind you that children should not be wearing jewellery of any kind to school (with the exception of small stud earrings).

Thanks for taking the time to read our Newsletter – Any questions or queries please pop them in your child's diary or ask either a member of the Hedgehogs staff team.