

Flamingos' Autumn News letter

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a wonderful holiday and would like to welcome you and your child/children to our exciting new academic year. We are delighted to have Mrs Tuma and Mrs Holgate working with us this year. Mrs Holgate will be teaching on a Thursday whilst I have my PPA and Leadership work time. In addition we will be working with our new trainee teacher Madeleine Dring. So we will have lots of help and support to aid children's learning across the year. At the end of last term the children were our lovely Flamingo Chicks and now they are grown up and will be known as Flamingos.

Last year was a tricky year for everyone and we would like to reassure you that your child's wellbeing is always at the forefront of our minds so although we need to be creative in ways we can contact each other we will! You all should have my work email and whilst I would encourage emails of administration needs to go through the office any concerns or celebrations can be shared directly and don't forget to use Tapestry our online observation platform. Or our home/school sharing book where we can keep in touch daily.



Flamingos will be working on the following areas of the curriculum this term:

Literacy: During the term we will continue to develop grammar and word work in line with the National Curriculum guidelines for Reception Children. Following our very successful implementation of Talk 4 Writing we will endeavour to build upon our early success looking at stories, recipes and poetry that examine characters feelings, asking questions and giving responses to enable the children to write using common techniques in both fiction and non-fiction texts. However, to get to this stage we will be 'telling stories' in a visual and oral manner. All lessons will build upon our phonic work with decoding and encoding to develop strong writing skills alongside the reading and writing of key high frequency words.

Reading with Flamingos in Reception

To begin with the children will be using picture books to 'read' and familiarise themselves with. Books with words read regularly with an adult at school and at home, discussing picture clues and the story in a visual format will help your child build up a bank of language patterns. Alongside this, phonics sounds will be introduced at school in a rigorous and systematic format. You may be asked to supplement the learning of key sounds at home using flashcards. Once the children have built up a bank of sounds they recognise they will be given a reading book to read daily at home for ten minutes to an adult. Reading records will be used as a method so that you can record how they are reading and what page they are up to. Reading at school will also remain a high priority to enable sounding of letters in a reading format alongside our phonic sessions. Once this is established learning to read and write key high frequency words will be introduced to ensure progress of learning is maintained. Your support in the early years is greatly appreciated. In due course our Tapestry programme will be up and running and recording/uploading sharing a book with your child is an ideal way of developing home and school links to early literacy.

Maths: Ensuring the children have a good number place value recognition of the number system will be developed in line with age expectations for the Reception children as appropriate in Flamingos in our Autumn Term. Children will be taught through the maths mastery approaches which embed itself with key principles of developing skills through fluency, problem solving and reasoning. Success for many children comes from additional parental support/interest where confidence has soared and self-esteem grown. We will endeavour to share with you details of learning in our weekly newsletter that can be found on the window at the front of the classroom or most likely on the website and as part of our Tapestry learning so that you are informed and working in a partnership with us.

Maths Homework Reception:

Key skills will be covered alongside the unit of study and children will be occasionally asked to carry out a challenge which will be placed on the newsletter. For instance, can you take a picture of a muddy puddle and step inside it then use a measuring stick to see how deep it was? Other homework may be more formal and will need adult support so that you can keep abreast of your child's understanding and progress.

P.E: All children should have named P.E. kit and trainers. We ask that you leave trainers at school and in due course the timetable will be available for you to know when to send you child into school in their PE kit due to Covid19 guidelines.

Home Communication through Tapestry

Please ensure that you regularly update the Tapestry observations so that we can add to it as required and read any relevant comments you may wish to share with us. Tapestry this year will as always be a crucial part of your child's assessment and progress.

Should you require any further clarification or information please just ask, we look forward to another very successful year for Flamingos!

Kind Regards,

Mrs C Sharpe

Mrs Sharpe Senior Teacher

I have received and read the Flamingo Autumn newsletter (please indicate and return electronically to the school office)

Child's name _____

Signed _____ Date_____