

Year R Autumn 2 Term 2023 – Topic Information for Parents

Class 1: Class Teacher – Mrs Parry Class 2: Class Teacher – Mrs Mead
LSAs – Miss Blacker, Miss Reid, Mrs Markham

Topics: Seasonal changes, Growth Mindset, The Christmas Story

This half term we will continue exploring the wonderful season of autumn and the changes we notice as winter creeps in. Alongside this, we will continue to introduce the Learning Powers and work on developing a growth mindset. During the last few weeks of term, we will learn about the Christmas story and spend time practising for our Nativity performance.

LITERACY

Reading

This half term, we will learning to:

- handle, enjoy and discuss a wide variety of books in the classroom and library.
- understand book terminology for fiction books such as author, cover, title, page, pictures etc
- Recognise all letter sounds and names that we have learned so far and begin to blend them together to form simple words e.g.: up, at, in, dog, bed, hen, frog, lamp, tent
- Read some Year R tricky words eg and, the, to, I

Writing

This half term, we will be learning to:

- develop fine motor skills to strengthen fingers for writing.
- write the correct letter in response to the spoken sound using the correct formation.
- use writing in play and say what they have written.
- hear the sounds in, and write, simple CVC words without help. e.g.: cat, mat, pot, dog, tap, pat, pit etc.

Most children should now be able to write their own first name. Please continue to support them to do this using the correct letter formation and correct tripod pencil grip.

MATHS

This half term, we will be learning to:

- Rote count to 20 using the ‘teen’ suffix rather than ‘ty’
- Count on from any given start number e.g.: Adult says 2,3 child says 4,5,6. Adult says 6,7,8 child says 9,10,11
- **Recognise numbers to 10** and place them in the correct order
- Write the numeral in response to the spoken number, using the correct number formation.
- Match a set of objects to a number
- Compare two sets and say which set has **more/most or less/least/fewer/fewest**
- Combine 2 sets of objects and begin to use the language of “add” and “altogether”
- Begin to think of ways to record our thinking and learning
- Understand and use the language of heavier / lighter / longer / shorter and be able to compare to weights and lengths
- Understand positions such as: behind, next to, between, in front of

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

Speaking and Listening

This half term, we will be learning to:

- Develop speaking and listening skills, such as waiting while others are talking, looking at the person you are talking to, respond appropriately to someone who is talking to you, ask questions to find out more
- Follow instructions the first time they are given
- Express ourselves in a small group and show others that you are listening to them
- Help each other in class and talk about the way to be a good friend

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

This half term, we will be learning to:

- Experiment with materials and simple techniques such as collage, printing, drawing etc.
- Use scissors safely and correctly to cut along lines.
- Explore which primary colours to mix in order to create a range of new colours and shades
- Explore the use of different media and the effects that they create
- Use various musical instruments and explore the sounds that they make
- Learn to sing our Christmas nativity songs
- Perform to an audience during the nativity performance

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

This half term, we will be learning to:

- Recognise and talk about the changes around us as autumn becomes winter
- Suggest what might happen to the animals and birds as it becomes colder and how it might affect our day to day lives
- Retell the Christmas story and begin to understand how people celebrate Christmas around the world
- Talk about family traditions and how Christians celebrate Christmas.
- Understand that there are many different faiths and traditions and that not all people are alike
- Use the interactive whiteboard to support their learning
- Use the listening centre for stories and songs, taking care of CDs and equipment

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
<p>Children will need to come to school in their PE kit every Wednesday.</p> <p>This half term, we will be learning to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listen and follow instructions in PE - Travel in different ways and at various speeds - Use equipment safely - Take risks in a safe environment - Have regard for safety rules <p>Children take off their shoes and socks for PE in the hall. Please encourage your child to put these on independently every morning as this will support them when at school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop fine motor skills using jigsaws, construction, beads, scissors, threading, playdough etc. <p>As the weather gets colder the children will need to wear their coats more often. It is a big help to us if children can put on and zip up their own coat – please practise at home if your child is not yet able to do this independently.</p>	<p>This half term we will be learning to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop confidence, self-help skills and independence - Develop appropriate behaviour and regard for the classroom and school rules – ‘Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe’ - Be responsible for their own belongings. - Share and co-operate with others through play - Participate more fully during review time - begin to explain their learning in more detail, talk about what they found tricky, which learning powers they used and make suggestions for how to make their brain work even harder next time <p>We will be helping the children understand how perseverance, focus and “having a go” makes them better learners. We will be helping them to challenge themselves to do more than they think they can</p> <p>Children should have the confidence to try new things and say why they like some activities more than others</p>
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP	
<p>We will start the new academic year with a focus on what are we hoping for in terms of our learning, our friendships and our new class.</p> <p>We will continue to make explicit links with our core Christian values of Love, Hope and faith and with the British values wherever possible (which are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs).</p>	

HOMEWORK

Ideally we would like you to spend a little time each day supporting your child with some learning at home. We find ‘little and often’ works more effectively than sitting for long periods at a time. Try to find 5-10 minutes twice a day to work with your child on the things below:

Reading / Phonics – Use the sound cards we send home to practise sounds daily – show your child a letter and ask them to say the sound and do the action. Lay the letter cards out, say a sound and ask your child to select the matching card. Once your child is able to blend sounds to read a few words, we will send a book home for you to read with them and sets of tricky words to learn. Please read with your child every day if you can and practise reading and spelling their tricky words. As well as reading the words in the books, it is important that you discuss the story and ask your child lots of questions to develop their comprehension skills. Continue to encourage storytelling using the picture books we send home – this is an important skill in being a writer later on.

Please comment in the Link Book to inform us of what you and your child have done as this helps us to move them on quicker. Reading books will be changed once a week when they have been read at home and at school.

Finally, remember to find time each day to read a story to your child – making this part of the bedtime routine often works really well.

Writing - Please continue to help your child practise writing their name and the tricky words we send home – copying at first and then from memory. Please ensure your child is holding their pen or pencil correctly and using **the correct letter formation**. All lower case letters start at the top (except ‘d’ and ‘e’). It is really important that your child holds their pen / pencil correctly and forms each letter correctly as bad habits are extremely hard to break once they have become ingrained.

Number – Practise counting forwards and backwards from different start numbers. Count anything and everything – remembering to touch each item for accuracy. Please help your child to recognise numbers to 10 and put them in the correct order. Once they can recognise them, they could practise writing them using the correct formation. If they can do this, please extend to numbers to 20. Ask your child to say the number that is one more or one less than a given number (up to 10). Use the language of measure in everyday activities – weighing ingredients, measuring and comparing length / height, exploring capacity in the bath, etc...

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year R Team

