

**Foundation Stage Newsletter**  
**Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup> Half 2016**



**Seasons**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have all had a lovely break. We were really pleased with how all your children settled in to the routines of Hedgehog class. They all enjoyed our food topic and we definitely have some little chefs in the making! This half term our topic will be based around Seasons, starting with an Autumn theme.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional development**

In **RE** The children will focus on learning about the Christmas story. They will find out about the characters in the story and think about how it feels to give and receive presents. We will also be learning about the festival of Diwali.

In **PSHE** this half term our focussed circle time will be on *Getting on and Falling Out*. The children will be thinking about how to work in a group, how to resolve a dispute and how to make up with a friend after falling out with them. Alongside this we will continue to encourage children to develop their independence when selecting their own activities and resources.

### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

Our weekly stories will be based around our topic of Seasons. We will begin with *Room on a Broom* and also cover *Stick man* and *The Gruffalo*.

Nursery and Reception children will be completing daily phonics lessons and Reception children will have a specific literacy lesson every day.

Lots of our literacy and communication work will be ongoing through play to enable us to cater for the range of ages and abilities within the class. There will be lots of opportunities to listen and recall stories, mark make or begin to write simple words in the role play area. Nursery children will be developing their ability to listen and recall stories, look at books carefully and join in with repeated refrains. Reception will continue to develop their abilities to link sounds to letters, with a focus on starting to write simple words.

### **Maths development**

Much of the maths based teaching will be ongoing through the children's play. Although alongside this all children have four focussed maths sessions each morning.

Nursery children will be working on recognising numbers, comparing two groups of objects, sometimes matching numeral to quantity and using positional language. In

Reception the focus will be on recognising teen numbers, continuing repeating patterns, and partitioning five objects in different ways.

### **Understanding the world**

The focus of our learning will be on Seasons. The children will be looking at the changes that occur over time. We will go out for walks to collect some seasonal natural objects. Talk about animals that hibernate, bulbs that go to sleep underground and come out in spring. Ask the children their thoughts about why hedgehogs hibernate. Why do squirrels collect nuts? What happens to the leaves on trees?

### **Physical development**

Every morning the children will take part in busy fingers, developing their fine motor skills. This will include threading, using tweezers completing puzzles. We have made a slight change to our Monday PE session. Reception will now be joining us and we will alternate between music and PE each week. They will focus on moving in a range of ways around apparatus such as rolling, crawling, jumping and sliding. Reception PE- will be on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon with Mr Green.

### **Expressive arts and design**

The children will learn some seasonal songs in music, and listen and dance to a range of different songs. We will be using sticks and natural objects to create collages and sculptures, printing with leaves, creating 3D fireworks and looking at colour mixing. Our role play area will be an animal hideout.

### **Things to remember**

- Come and share a story with your child every Friday morning. 8.45- 9.00
- Always leave spare clothes on your child's peg.
- Check the notice board in atrium to see weekly plans and other information.
- Use wow certificates, see letter in your induction pack.

Please do not hesitate to come and ask us if you have any questions or concerns.

Many thanks

Rachel Gleadow and Sally Chicken