



Reception Newsletter

November 2019



Dear Families

Welcome back! We hope you have had a relaxing half term. Please find below some home-school information regarding what to expect over the next few months in Moles and Hedgehogs.

Winter Wear

With the winter months approaching, please ensure your child has a suitable coat and pair of welly boots in school. The children still have access to our outdoors classroom in most weathers, but will only be allowed on the field at lunch times if they have welly boots. Thank you.

Please ensure all items of your child's school uniform; including coats, hats, scarves, gloves etc. are labelled, or at least initialled. It is incredibly difficult for us to successfully return lost items if they are not named.

Snack and Water

All children have access to a choice of fruit and vegetables at our snack bar between 9.30-11am every day, but it is up to them to decide if and when they are hungry at some point in the morning. Milk is also available for those children who have been signed up via coolmilk online. This continues to be free for children under 5. Children who don't have milk are encouraged to drink from their water bottle, which is in a basket next to the snack bar. Whilst children are not monitored with how much they drink each day, there are set times every day where reminders are given. Children can access their water bottle at any time - this is not restricted.

Phonics for Reading & Writing

All children are now participating in our daily phonics session. This includes continuing to learn all of the letter sounds and how to 'blend' these sounds to read simple words, such as "m-a-p = map" or "h-a-t = hat". Your child has also been taught to recognise some "tricky words" i.e the, was, to etc. These are words the children are taught cannot be sounded out, and are words we just have to learn by sight. Please continue to practise these skills together when reading at home.

Alongside the teaching of reading in phonics, the children are also taught how to segment (spell) simple words using their sounds such as "dog = d-o-g". The children are also accessing a weekly handwriting session to support their pencil control and the correct orientation of letters.

PE

Up to now, the children have not yet changed for PE sessions. Instead they have been learning about co-ordination and control of their own body, spatial awareness and movement skills, as well as the rules and expectations within lessons. Now that this is successfully embedded, the children will learn how to change and manage their belongings successfully. Sessions will increase over this half term.

Toys

Please remind your child that toys from home should remain at home. On a number of occasions, toys are appearing in school and quickly become lost. This causes the children to then become upset. Thank you for supporting us with this.

Library

With our Library now refurbished and open for classes, the children will visit our school Library once a week with their teachers. They will learn about the difference between fiction and non-fiction

books, enjoy sharing new and familiar texts together as a class, as well as each child being able to choose their own book to bring home.

Each child has a school Library account and their chosen book will be scanned out by staff. One book can be borrowed at any one time, so we would ask your child's Library book is always in their bag so that it can be changed during our Library visit should your child wish to.

Tapestry

Your child's personal learning journal is now live on Tapestry and can be accessed by you securely from home. Please check that your log in and password allow you access to see your child's progress in learning and events in school that we have uploaded to share with you. If you have any difficulties with the Tapestry system, please let your class teacher know or stop in at the school office and ask Mrs Cable for any technical support.

Topic Learning

This half term, as per the curriculum planner, we will be learning about traditional tales and other stories through our '**once upon a rhyme**' theme. We intend to cover the following stories.

- Room on the Broom
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- Little Red Riding Hood
- Jack and the Beanstalk
- The Jolly Postman

We will also be looking at teen numbers, digraphs (two letters that make one sound), learning to write a sentence, letter writing, rhyming, measuring etc. If you would like to share these stories at home over the new few weeks, this will support your child's learning.

Reception Coffee Afternoon

Mrs Money and Miss Randles are hosting the next coffee afternoon for Reception families on **Thursday 14th November** from 2-3pm in the main hall. Mrs Money will be talking through events to expect in the lead up to Christmas and Miss Randles will be talking through Tapestry. The meeting also provides an opportunity to meet other parents and have any queries or questions answered.

November Diary Dates - relevant for Hedgehogs and Moles'...

Thursday 14th November	Coffee Afternoon for Reception Families 2-3pm - all welcome
Friday 15th November	Children In Need - Dress Up Day - bright coloured mufti!
Monday 18th November	Super Scientists Day - in school event - not for parents
Friday 29th November	Mufti Day - in exchange for Christmas Fayre donations
Saturday 30th November	Christmas Fayre 1-3pm - all welcome

A further newsletter will follow in a few weeks outlining all events and activities in the lead up to Christmas.

We hope that you all enjoy another successful and happy half term with us in Reception.

Kind Regards

Miss Randles, Mrs Robinson and the Reception Team