



Reception Newsletter Autumn 2 2014

Dear Giraffe Parents and Carers,

The children have had a wonderful start to the year and they have settled well into school life. The class successfully transitioned into the longer day and have quickly learnt new rules and routines. Our topic themes in Autumn 1 were 'Ourselves' and 'Starting School'. During this term we learnt all about school life and how to be a good member of Giraffe Class. The children have been sharing their likes and dislikes and discussing how they are similar and different to others. They have also been busy exploring the different areas of the classroom and have enjoyed making lots of new friends, as well as trying out different activities. They particularly enjoyed doing Write Dance sessions (tracing writing patterns through dance and drawing) and being outside where they have already been on lots of adventures!

Each term we follow broad, flexible themes and these are adapted in response to children's interests and lines of enquiry. This ensures that engagement and enthusiasm are maintained! Please see attached an overview of our curriculum over the next half-term.

PE/Motive8: After half-term the children will begin to have PE lessons. PE is on a **Tuesday** and Motive8 is on a **Wednesday**. Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit on these days.

Home Learning:

Reading books

Your child will continue to bring home 3 picture books to share with you and 3 reading books to read to you each week. Please comment in their yellow Reading Record to let us know how they find their books.

Sounds/Spellings

The children will continue to bring home sound wallets and a home learning book containing sounds that they have learnt in class. Please practise these sounds with your child, encouraging them to form each letter correctly when writing.

Additional Half-Term Home Learning:

In preparation for our next topic, during the half-term holiday please explore signs of Autumn with your child. Activities could include:

- Going on a nature hunt
- Finding out about what wildlife you might see in the Autumn
- Finding different leaves – how many different types or colours can you find?
- Looking for conkers – how many can you find?
- Exploring which colours can be seen in nature at this time of year – how are these different to the Summer Time?
- Making pictures from natural objects

Green Leaves

Thank you for all of the green leaves that have been written to share the learning your child has been doing at home. It is really lovely to receive these contributions as it helps us to build up a whole picture of a child's learning. Please continue to send these in - there is always a supply of leaves by the door so please ask if you need anymore!

Show and tell

Our show and day will be on a Wednesday. If your child would like to bring something in to share with the class, please can this be something which demonstrates their learning or which links to our topic theme. No toys should therefore need to be brought into school. For example, they could bring in a certificate, photo, or something they have made. This ensures that the children have a good opportunity to practice their communication and language skills as they will need to explain and discuss their item.

Requests

As we are now beginning to experience colder weather, please can you ensure that your child has a coat and other appropriate clothing with them each day. This allows them to use the outside area as much as possible.

If you have any questions or queries then please come and talk to me after school on a Wednesday. Alternatively you can make an appointment to see me.

Thank you for all of your help and support over the last half term. Have a great half term holiday!

Emily and Suvi