



***'Being Better Every Day'***

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Reception Curriculum Newsletter – Term 1**

We are excited to share our first Topic Newsletter. We have some great topics planned for this school year. For each topic, we will share a newsletter about the term ahead and an overview of the learning.

In **Term 1**, our first topic title is called;



***'Why do squirrels hide their nuts?'***

**Into the woods we go! Why do squirrels hide their nuts? Why do hedgehogs hibernate? It's time to explore the seasonal changes in the natural world.**

This term, we'll visit the school woodland area to observe and experience the autumnal environment, collecting autumn treasures as we crunch through piles of fallen leaves. Back in the classroom, we'll sort our treasures into different categories, create land art, and dry and flatten leaves to decorate.

We'll learn about what are woodland animals – their individual habitats and the food that they eat. We will listen to and learn about woodland tales, and we'll roll up our sleeves to make a clay woodland animal! We will also make 'squirrel muffins' for the squirrels that live in our school grounds and observe our food as it decays over time!

**Curriculum Project**

For each topic, we will ask your child to complete a home-learning project. We ask that every child has a go at completing a project that can be brought into school. For this topic, you could

- Explore a local woodland together and create a photo journal of the visit.
- Build a fairy or elf house using twigs, leaves, nuts and berries (take photos or draw pictures)
- Cook some fabulous autumnal recipes such as pumpkin soup or toffee apple cakes and write the recipe or take photos (Tell us if your family enjoyed eating it)
- Set up a mud kitchen in your garden. What ingredients from the garden can you mix together to create an autumn potion?

Your child may wish to come up with their own idea for their home learning project. Your child may wish to complete their project by themselves or need your support in completing their project – either is fine and we look forward to see them.

**Images**

Below are some images to inspire your home-school projects.



We have also included a list of websites you could explore at home to help your child with their learning:

**Useful Websites:**

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/things-to-do/children-and-families/>

<https://www.getoutwiththekids.co.uk/activities/doing/activities-walking-woods-kids/>

Home learning projects should be completed by **w/b Monday 21st October 2024**. If you have any questions about the home learning project, please contact your child's class teacher.

**Reading**

Reading is the single most important skill that children will learn, and we expect every child to read at home every day. In Reception, we expect every child to read with an adult for a minimum of 10 minutes every day. Your child's reading book will be linked to the sounds they are practising. Reading takes on many forms and can take place just about anywhere, including the reading of labels and signs, and in magazines and comics. Parents and carers should record the daily reading activity in your child's reading record.

**PE-** Reception children experience physical play outside every day and should be wearing suitable footwear.

**Mondrian** class will have PE every **Monday**.

**Van Gogh** class will have PE every **Tuesday**.

On this day send your children to school wearing their PE kit, with their school jumper or cardigan.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C. Jacques Class Teacher (Van Gogh class) Miss Hall Class Teacher (Mondrian class)

**KNOWLEDGE – EQUALITY – DETERMINATION – ACHIEVEMENT**