



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

December 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to say a huge thank you for your continued support during our The Gruffalo theme. We are been impressed with the level of the children's independence, maturity and politeness. We have explored the text of The Gruffalo and the children have become confident in learning facts about woodland and forest areas and what type of creatures live in these settings. This letter will outline what we will be looking at for the next half term.

INTERGRATED CURRICULUM

Next half term we will take focus our learning around the theme 'Princesses and Dragons'.

We will be looking at, and basing the learning around, a range of topics that relate to this theme such as:

- Fairy/Traditional Tales
- Real Dragons (Dinosaurs and Lizards)
- Magic Stories
- Wicked Witches and Story Villains

We will continue to incorporate your child's interests in to our planning so please let us know if your child has a new hobby or interest that we can all learn about! On **Tuesday 6th January 2015**, to launch our new theme, we are having a **dress-up day**. We are asking children to dress up as a King, Queen, Princess, Prince, Knight or a dragon! We are looking forward to seeing your fantastic outfits.

PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

We are inviting parents/carers and siblings to come into the Reception classroom for a 'Hot Chocolate Afternoon' on **Tuesday 10th February 2015** at **2.40pm**. This will be an opportunity for you to come into the classroom and sit with your child, read stories and go through your child's learning journal. We will be offering tea and coffee for adults and hot chocolate with marshmallows for children. A letter will be sent out closer to the date with more information about the Hot Chocolate Afternoon.

POW PROJECT

Our 'POW Project' for the theme of Princesses and Dragons is to create your own dragon. To do this, you may wish to draw a picture of your dragon and then *label* the different parts. You may even wish to create your own 'dragon fact file' and list all of the different powers your dragon has. If you wish to put in the extra 'pow' you could even create and build your own 3D dragon! Any projects returned to school will be displayed in our POW project area so everybody in school can admire your hard work! We are also still encouraging the use of 'All About Me' books, feel free to take these home as and when you need them. Please inform a member of the Reception team if you need a new book.

READ, WRITE, INC

The Read Write Inc programme is proving successful with the children and we are seeing huge progression from all children in the Reception Class. All children are keen to learn the new sounds and show enthusiasm when in a Read Write Inc session. We are now focusing much more on Fred Talking the learned sounds alongside learning the new sounds. Your continued support through the Read Write Inc booklets is highly valued and continues to help us understand the support we need to give to your child.



ORBIT

As you are aware, the Reception team aim to provide high quality observations through the use of the Orbit assessment application. We thank all the parents that have been very keen in signing up and keeping track of the observations we have produced. A gentle reminder that your Orbit account allows you to upload observations from home in the form of 'post cards'. Any post cards we receive will help the Reception team become more aware of your child's out of school learning and we can use these as a discussion point with your child. Your child will also relish the opportunity to explain their postcards to the rest of the class and adults. If you have any problems with signing up or uploading post cards to the Orbit site, please inform a member of the Reception team.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Physical Development time will continue to be Wednesday mornings; however children will have access to develop their physical skills through the indoor and outdoor areas. We continue to ask that you ensure a **clearly named** kit is in school at all times. The kit uniform includes:

- A suitable bag to remain on your child's peg
- Plain White T-Shirt
- Black/Grey Shorts
- Plimsolls/Trainers
- Black/Grey Jogging Bottoms

A reminder that all long hair should be tied back and stud earrings are to be covered with plasters (that are provided from home); all other forms of jewellery are **not** permitted.

LOST PROPERTY

It is vital that **all items** of your child's clothing are named, including shoes. As personal items are difficult to recognise, named items will enable members of the team to identify your child's clothing immediately. If unnamed items of clothing are found, they will be placed in the Lost Property box in the children's cloakroom which you are welcome to search through.

Thank you once again for your support throughout this half term,

Yours sincerely,

The Reception Team

Mr L Alletson
Class Teacher

Miss J Greenwood
Teaching Assistant

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

