



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

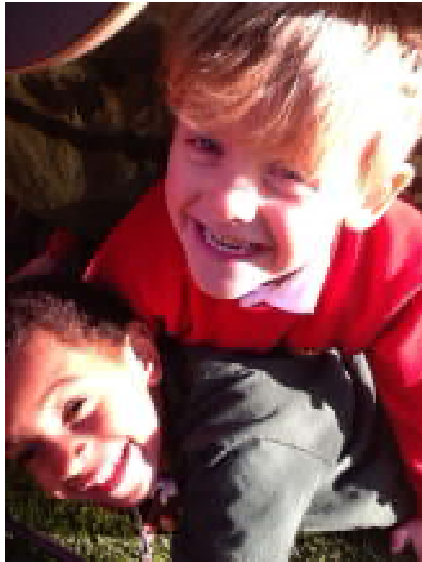
*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

Dear Parents/Carers

### Reception Autumn Term Update

What a successful first term! We are so pleased at how quickly the children have adapted to school life. All of the children in the class are making progress in becoming independent and taking responsibility for their own belongings. Please do continue however to bear with the inevitable glitches that arise as the children are in charge of changing, going to the library to get their books and choosing their activities for the day.



An important task for us has been learning to make friends and get along. The children are all familiar with each other now and have begun to establish their friendship groups. It has been great to see them working together particularly in the outdoor area.

Very early on in the year we started our phonics sessions. The children are making good progress and have been writing cards, lists and letters. We are still practising holding the pencil correctly and forming the letters accurately. We are working hard at name writing and making sure that the only capital letter used is at the start of their name.

The children have loved our outdoor area and have particularly enjoyed building with the tyres, rocks, bricks and logs. We also have system of guttering and downpipes which the children have had great fun exploring what

happens when you pour water down it or shoot cars along it.

Our Christmas celebrations have been very busy. All of the children took part in the performance and I was very pleased with their achievements. All children contributed and were brave enough to step on stage. As well as enjoying Christmas we have also been exploring 'pirates' in our role play area and through our play activities. As part of this we have been getting in role as pirates. The children have loved dressing up, making maps, hats and flags and many more creative crafts. We have treacherously 'walked the plank' counting on and back on the number line remembering to jump onto the next number as they count. We have counted pirate treasure and added gems, coins and jewellery. We also turned ourselves into pirates and made wanted posters.

The children loved to learn about Dinosaurs especially when an unexpected egg arrived in the classroom! The excitement and engagement continued when a Triceratops was caught on video hatching from our egg! The children made posters to help find the dinosaur. We counted teeth and bones and even found some strange eggs in the shape of circles, squares, rectangles and triangles! The dinosaur nests were even stranger in the shape of spheres, cubes, cuboids and cylinders!

During our 'Funny Bones' topic we learnt about our bodies. We made scary words and skeleton pictures, we even counted bones that we found in our sand pit.





We have been so excited to see the progress the children have been making as the weeks have gone on. We are also very pleased that you have been supporting us, sending in your own wow slips showing us your observations about the things you have been noticing at home. Please keep sending them in - if you run out of them we have plenty in the cloakroom. If you are still unsure about what to write please contact a member of the team, we are more than happy to help.

I am looking forward to continuing the learning journey next term. We will be learning about Cold and Ice and Superheroes.

**Here are the targets we are working towards next term:**

- To write own name with correct formation and a capital letter at the start.
- To recognise all our sounds and write them.
- To read CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words e.g. mad, tap, dad, bin.
- To recognise on sight the red words I, to, you, said, me, of, the, my, put, want, they.
- To count 1- 15 reliably and recognise numbers 1-15.
- Recognise the following shapes square, circle, rectangle, triangle, cube, cuboid, cylinder, sphere and be able to talk about properties e.g number of sides, faces and vertices (corners).
- To practise retelling stories with familiar patterns – traditional tales such as Goldilocks and the 3 bears, the 3 Billy Goats Gruff, The gingerbread man etc.
- To get changed independently and fasten their coats.

**If you feel your child has already achieved these you could support us by:**

- Practising 1/2/3 more/less
- Practically adding two groups of objects together
- Recognise more complex shapes e.g. pentagon, hexagon, square based pyramid, triangular based pyramid, prism and be able to talk about properties e.g number of sides, faces and and vertices(corners)
- Recognising shapes in the environment

**Useful websites;**

<http://www.ngkids.co.uk/places/ten-facts-about-the-arctic#>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z4bg87h/resources/1>

<http://marvelkids.disney.co.uk/>

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. A big thank you too for all your gifts kind wishes for the seasons.

Mrs Hainsworth  
Class Teacher



Miss Greenwood  
Higher Level Teaching Assistant



Mrs Wood  
Teaching Assistant



Mrs D Reynolds  
Head Teacher

