



### Reception News

Congratulations to all the Reception children. They have made us all so proud this half term, walking into school with huge smiles on their faces and trying their best at everything we have done. Thank you to you all for being prompt at the gate in the morning and supporting your child to choose their lunch and walk into class independently. It is really important that we all support the children to become more independent, so please encourage your child to get themselves dressed and undressed and to put on their own coat. Children's physical development is also very important at this age and they should be encouraged to be as active as possible as often as possible. The EYFS curriculum guidance for physical development, from the age of 2 or 3, suggests 'active travel' to and from the setting – for example walking, scooter or bike - so let's try and leave the buggies at home.

#### What we have been learning

Our topic this half term has been 'All About Me'. We had great fun painting self-portraits and we have enjoyed talking about our families. Storytime is a great success and we have shared some fantastic books together. We have particularly enjoyed learning the words and actions to help us retell the stories 'Owl Babies', 'It's My Birthday' and 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'.

We are getting much better at recognising our names and have started to learn to write them, using the correct letter formation. In Phonics, we have been learning the Phase 2 sounds and are beginning to use this knowledge to read simple CVC (Constant, Vowel, Constant) words. Please continue to use the sound books and key ring words to practise at home – we have already noticed a difference in the children's confidence since we have been using these. In Maths, we have been learning about the numbers to 5 and how to compare groups within 5 using the vocabulary 'more', 'fewer' and 'equal'. We have also been learning about Autumn and how the leaves change colour and fall to the ground.

#### Upcoming Learning

Next half term our topic will be 'People Who Help Us' and we will be teaching the children the importance of certain roles within our community. We are hoping that some of these important people may be able to pay us a visit to talk to us in more detail about their jobs. We will also be learning about the festivals Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas.

It is going to be another very busy and exciting half term!

We have appreciated all of your support this half term. Have a wonderful break next week.

Best Wishes

Miss Barrett, Mr Lawal and The Reception Team

### Year 1 News

Firstly, it has been an amazing joy to watch your children settle into Year 1 so quickly! Well done Red Class! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for your continued support in helping your child read at home. It is this valuable home-school partnership that ensures academic success and it is very much appreciated! Thank you!



#### What we have been learning

Our topic this half term has been 'Remarkable Me'. Children have been introduced to the concept of five senses that help them to find out about the world around them. We have had a lovely time tasting food to classify tastes scientifically, going on listening walks and grouping different materials. We all agreed science is so much fun! We have also been developing a sense of history by looking at toys and homes in the past and comparing them to today. In art, children have enjoyed painting portraits of themselves, making masks and learning about lines and shading. Our shared reading has been very enjoyable and children particularly loved gaining a deeper understanding of the story 'Where the Wild Things Are'. In maths, children have been developing their counting and addition skills.

#### Upcoming Learning

Next half term our topic will be 'Winter News' which explores the season of winter. In Science, our topic begins by looking at winter and its impact on British Wildlife. We will explore how some animals and insects adapt to winter, whilst others hibernate and migrate. Finally, winter is the season that heralds the joys of Christmas. In RE, we will be learning about the story of Christmas and engaging in a range of festive activities, including getting ready for our Christmas Concert! As part of our learning, we will also be learning about Diwali & Bonfire Night. In English, children will be learning to write short, well-constructed sentences with ambitious vocabulary. In Maths, we will be learning about subtraction, number bonds, 2D and 3D shapes. It is going to be an amazing new half term and we cannot wait to see you all again!

## Year 2 News



### What we have been learning

In year 2 we have been super busy. We have been learning about habitats and what makes them suitable for certain animals in Science; we also looked at food chains and what parts go into making them.

In Geography we have been looking at the weather and the different seasons we experience within the UK. We recapped the countries and capitals of the UK and investigated the weather patterns of the four countries.

RE has had us learning about the different parables that Jesus told Christians and what the moral ideas behind them were.

In English we have been working on developing our writing skills, applying them to different formats such as letters, posters and poems. We created a range of poems about Black Rock from our core text and created persuasive posters that promoted the safe treatment of Black Rock.

Maths has been our busiest subject this term. We have worked on our knowledge of number and learned how to lay out our number sentences into column method to help us with adding two 2-digit numbers together. We have also been working hard to learn how to carry over and exchange as well as having a go at word problems.

### Upcoming Learning

Next half term we will be looking at 'The Proudest Blue' and 'Look Up' in English. We will be developing our writing for purpose and introducing new grammar features to make our writing even more exciting. We will be writing instructions, short narratives and creating flyers to allow us to apply the new skills we will be learning.

### Reminders

- No jewellery is allowed to be worn at school; this includes earrings.
- Please remember to name every item of clothing that your child brings into school, as they all look the same.
- In Reception we will be using the Outdoor Classroom throughout the year as part of our learning. As the weather is getting colder, please ensure you send your child to school with a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves.
- Flamingo Class visit the library on Wednesday. Penguin Class visit the library on Thursday. Year 1 visit on a Monday and Year 2 on a Friday. Please make sure your library book is in the bookbag on your child's library day.
- Please continue to read regularly with your child (a minimum of three times a week). We love celebrating the children's reading efforts in our weekly assemblies and in class.
- Please look in your child's bookbag daily for any letters we may have given out and check the MCAS app daily. Any pictures that they have drawn are for you to keep at home.
- Our Breakfast Club starts at 8 a.m. and costs £2.00 per day. Please bring your child to the usual school gate.
- Our After School Club starts straight after school and finishes at 5 p.m. It costs £4.00 per day.

### Dates to Remember

Back to school – 30<sup>th</sup> October

10<sup>th</sup> November – Individual school photos

14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November – Parents Evening – more details to follow.

17<sup>th</sup> November – Iroko Storytelling Workshop & Children in Need

Inset days in November – Fri 24<sup>th</sup> and Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – school closed

18<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Christmas Performance – more details to follow

19<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Christmas Performance – more details to follow

20<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Class Parties

21<sup>st</sup> December Last Day at School