



Year R Autumn Term

Welcome to Year R! We are very excited to meet your wonderful children and hope they have a happy and confident start to their first year of school. Mrs Brooks will be teaching the class on Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Summers will be teaching Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Kendall is the Year R teaching assistant and she will *be in class all week. Our topic this term will be 'Buddy Starts School'. Buddy is the class bear and the purpose behind this topic is to support the children in settling into Nutfield Church Primary and learning the behaviour expectations in school. It also largely focuses on making friends and discussion of our feelings.*

After half term our topic will be 'In a Land Far, Far Away'. In this topic we will look at fairytales and celebrations.

English

We will begin the term by recognising and writing our names. We will begin to retell our own stories through pictures and marks. We will be learning stories by joining in with repeated refrains in texts such as *'Bear Hunt'. Towards the end of the term, we will write invitations to our own teddies for a teddy bears' picnic. After half term we will be beginning to apply their growing phonetic knowledge to reading and writing activities, for example writing labels and captions. We will also be looking at describing words and learning the difference between fiction and non-fiction books.*

Maths

We will begin to explore numbers from 1 to 20 and really unpicking what each number means. We will practise writing each numeral and representing it in lots of different ways, using a variety of objects. Our aim will be to help Buddy learn his numbers 1 -20 as he gets very confused sometimes! We will use positional language to describe where things are using our main texts to help us e.g - Bear hunt - *'we can't go over it, we can't go under it.... we'll have to go through it!'* After half term we will estimating, comparing and saying one more or less than a given number. We will also learning and describing 2D shapes.

PSED (personal, social and emotional development)

PSED is crucial at this point in the year and there will be a lot of emphasis on social skills this term. We will be working together to help Buddy settle in to Nutfield Church Primary School. We will model the good behaviour we have learnt and support him to become part of our Reception Class. We will begin to try to make friends within the classroom by talking and listening to others during circle time. Staff will be encouraging and modelling to the children how to initiate conversations and to take account of what others say. After half term we will be learning how to resolve conflicts, cooperation skills and how to express their feelings when angry.

Phonics

As a school we use the Oxford Owl Essential Letters and Sounds phonic programme. Over the next term we will be learning Phase 2 and 3 phonemes. Please encourage your children to consolidate their understanding of these phonemes when they read their reading books.

Reading

Reading books and reading records will be sent out at the end of the week (Friday 9th September).

*Please read regularly at home with your child as this is very important for the development of their reading skills. Please keep your reading record book in your **child's book bag at all times**. Please feel free to write any comments or observations in their reading records. Your comments are important to us. You will also be given a log in to Oxford Owl where there will be an online book you can share which will relate to the phonics learned that week.*

Physical Development

During this half term, provision for gross motor development will be created in our outside classroom. After half term, the children will start participating in PE lessons. A large part of this is practising getting dressed in and out of kit. Please ensure children have the correct P.E kit and ensure that all items of P.E kit are named. PE will be indoors so PE shoes will not be needed until the Spring term.

PE kit will stay at school and sent home at the end of the term unless it is particularly in need of a wash.

Understanding the World

We will be focusing on the routines of our school and how we can support Buddy to settle in to our school. We will be encouraging the children to talk about members of their immediate family and community and describe people who are familiar to them. By going on nature walks we will be exploring the natural world around us. After half term we will be discussing some places which are special to members of their community. We will also be learning that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.

Expressive Arts and design

Arts are a very important part of our learning in Reception. EAD covers art, music and drama skills.

The children will be using music to explore a story and learn how different sounds can convey different feelings. The children will be looking closely at themselves when they create self-portraits and will explore mixing colours.

After half term we will be looking closely at celebrations and the children will have fun creating art celebrating Diwali, firework night and Christmas. Throughout the term the children will be learning songs and nursery rhymes.

RE and Collective Worship

Our focus this term in RE will be 'Who made this wonderful world?' and our topic after half term will be 'Christmas', these will link to our termly school values. There are daily whole school Collective Worship times where we will be extending our learning and understanding of our school values within our Christian community. Reception will begin the year by attending all Friday celebration Collective Worship and will progressively attend more throughout the year.

Homework

Other than daily reading there is no mandatory homework for children in reception. However, to support your child's learning in phonics we will be sending home a phonics booklet which will be in line with the Oxford Owl Essential letters and sounds programme. We will also be sending home phonic flashcards so your child can practice phoneme recognition at home. Although both the phonics booklet and flashcards are optional, we cannot stress enough how 5 minutes of phonics practice a day could make the world of difference for your child's reading and writing progress. The phonics booklet and flashcards will be handed out at the end of 'Meet the Teacher' on Friday 9th September.

Uniform

Please adhere to the school's uniform policy which can be found on the website and ensure that all items are clearly named.

We will play and learn in our outside area in all weather so please ensure your child brings a named coat, hat, scarf and gloves daily when the weather gets colder.

Wellies are also advised for our outdoor learning, please ensure these are clearly named. These stay in school and can be returned at the end of each term if you choose.

Diary dates

Year R Phonics Training: Thursday 15th September 3.30 – 4.15pm Year R classroom

Harvest Service at Christ Church:

Friday 7th October, 9.30 am

Year R and Year 6 Buddy Collective Worship: Thursday 3rd November, 9.05 am

Inset Day: Friday 25th November

Parent and Carer Evenings: Monday 28th November – Wednesday 30th November

Nativity Dress Rehearsal: Monday 5th December, 2.00 – 3.00pm

Nativity Performance: Tuesday 6th December – Wednesday 7th December 2.00 – 3.00m

Christmas Lunch: Wednesday 14th December 12.00pm

Christmas Service at Christ Church: Thursday 15th December 9.30 am

We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know your children over the last few days and we are excited for the year ahead. Parent – teacher relationships are really important to us in EYFS and if you have any questions or concerns or just want to tell me something amazing your child has done please feel free to catch us in the playground at the end of the day. We are very happy to answer your queries and it is always good to see you! If you would like to speak with us more privately, please see us or write in the green home contact book to arrange an appointment.

Mrs Brooks, Mrs Summers and Mrs Kendall

Year R team