



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. 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. As a school we have six Christian values, the first school value this term is Community and after half term the value will be Peace.

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' party. After half term the children will be beginning to apply their growing phonic 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 follow the White Rose programme of study. In the first term the units covered include: Match, sort and compare; Talk about measure; It's me 1,2,3; Circles and triangles; 1,2,3,4,5; Shapes with 4 sides. Children are taught through whole class inputs, small focus groups and targeted activities made available in the classroom's enhanced provision. In the Autumn term, children will learn to match objects, sort objects into types and create rules based on their observations. They will investigate size, mass and capacity as well as exploring and creating simple patterns. They will learn about numbers 1–5 including their composition, representation and how to subitise as well as identifying one more or one less of a given number between 1–5.

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 the children 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 feelings or anger, sadness and frustration.

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 some phase 3 phonemes. Please encourage your children to consolidate their understanding of these phonemes when they are reading to you.

Reading

Reading books and reading records will be sent out on Monday 11th 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 find a log in to Oxford Owl on the inside page of your child's reading log. Here you can access online books which I have set that 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

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 initially have Collective Worship in class and start attending with the whole school after half term.

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 phonic and harder to read and spell words flashcards so your child can practice these at home. Although 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 flashcards will be handed out at the end of 'Meet the Teacher' on Friday 8th 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

Friday 8th September: Year R Meet the Teacher; 3.25—4.15 (Hall)

Thursday 14th September: Year R Phonics Workshop, 3.30—4.15pm (Classroom)

Thursday 5th October: Harvest Service at Christ Church, 9.30 am

Thursday 2nd November: Year R Buddy Collective Worship, 9.00 am (Hall)

Monday 27th November: Parent and Carer Evening (3.30—6.00pm)

Tuesday 28th November: Parent and Carer Evening (3.30—6.00pm)

Wednesday 29th November: Parent and Carer Evening (3.30 -6.00 pm)

Tuesday 5th December: Nativity Dress Rehearsal 2.00—3.00pm

Wednesday 6th December: Nativity Performance, 2.00—3.00pm

Thursday 7th December: Nativity Performance, 2.00—3.00 pm

Wednesday 13th December: Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th December: Christmas Service at Christ Church, 9.30am

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 and Mrs Kendall

Year R team