

## Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 16.10.23

Term 1 topic- Who am I?

Our story of the week- "The Enormous Turnip"



**Can you believe it that we are at the end of term 1 in Reception? What a busy and exciting first term it has been. We have enjoyed learning and exploring so much together.**

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We have been reviewing our class rules this week. We are becoming very good at sharing our toys and knowing that 'sharing is caring'. In Jigsaw this week, we looked at our rights at school. We know that we all have the right to be able to listen to our teachers and talk to the teachers about things that are making us happy or sad. If we are already talking to someone, we now know that we can hold our teacher's hand to let her know we want to say something. We also have practised our stop sign to tell our friends when they are doing something we don't like.

Communication and Language- Thank you again for chatting with your child about Harvest. Lots of the children enjoy seeing more tractors on the road at this time of year and it was good to know that 'This Harvest is much better than last year's'. We continue to learn lots of new words and vocabulary during our daily phonics sessions – 'phonemes', 'sound buttons', 'blending', 'phoneme frame' - and some children are using these during the sessions. They love to remind us when we have forgotten something! Toast Tuesday is still a big part of our week and we love talking to our friends whilst eating toast!

Physical Development- To help develop our fine motor skills we have enjoyed exploring play dough, threading beads onto pipe cleaners and making repeated patterns on our pin boards. Dough Disco is great fun to help us strengthen our fingers for writing. We are also enjoying squiggle while you wiggle where we practise our gross motor skills. We dance with our flipper flappers to music and then draw the dance with chunky pens; one in each hand. Make sure you have a look at our dance drawings when we tape them to the window. This week we have also prepared a yummy vegetable soup. We had great fun peeling the vegetables and cutting them up into small chunks.

Literacy- This is the second week that we have had The Enormous Turnip as our book of the week, but we are still having great fun re-telling the story and acting it out. We still love changing the vegetables the enormous broccoli plant was our favourite and very funny, especially when we all fall over at the end!

Mathematics- This week we have looked at repeating patterns and made them with leaves, conkers, acorns as well as cubes, pins and even our body percussion. We have continued to practise counting in 1s to 20, recognising our numbers to 20, forming our numbers correctly, counting up to 10 and back down again, and saying what is one more and one less than a given number. at this.

Understanding the World- We are expert at making toast now. We know that we need to wash our hands before touching any food but also that they must be dry before touching anything electrical. We know that brown bread is healthier for us and we enjoy eating every last crumb! We continue to spot many changes in the world around us and the field looks different each week, showing so many different signs of Autumn. We have talked about hibernating animals and some of us have spotted squirrels in the garden collecting and burying acorns!

Expressive Arts and Design- We were very busy on the art table again this week. We have loved using the coloured rice to decorate our hedgehogs and have enjoyed making Autumn pictures with coloured stickers. We love singing our Harvest songs. Big Red Combine Harvester is our favourite!

#### Supporting learning at home

- Challenge the children to count. How many bananas in the fruit bowl? How many fingers on everyone's hands in the family?
- Can you play 'I spy....' using the phonemes we have been learning?
- Can you practise writing your name using the letter formation we have learnt at school?

#### Notes for week beginning 30.10.23

- School starts back on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 8.40am.
- These last few weeks we have been luckily enough to have Mis Mantan in our classroom. Miss Mantan is a student and would love to be a primary school teacher one day. She will be in our classroom helping out for two weeks, then at college for two weeks up until Easter.
- All PE kits have been taken home. Next term please can the children come into school wearing their PE kit. Hopefully having this term for the children to practise getting changed will help them enormously when getting ready independently at home.
- Please make sure that coats, water bottles and book bags are in school every day, all **labelled with your child's name.**
- Remember library day is Monday – please bring your library book back on this day every week.
- Please can we ask that you don't allow your children play with the activities that are set up outside or ride the vehicles.

**Halloween Disco – On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the PTA are running a Halloween Disco for Y1-Y6. Pre-school and Reception will have a Halloween party in the decorated hall on Thursday morning. Children are welcome to come to school in fancy dress or non-school uniform on this day.**

**There will be a breakout room provided for anyone that would prefer not to attend the party. The PTA have organised a small party bag for each child containing a few sweets. If you have any concerns, please do let me know.**

**Have a lovely half term, everyone!**