



Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Autumn Term 2

Explorers!



Friday 5th November

Dear Parents / Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all parents, carers and your children for a fantastic start to the year and for all of your support. The children have settled into our school and the routines superbly. We are now looking forward to lots more fun this term, with the added excitement of Christmas!

Topic:

The topic this term is called 'Explorers!' and we will start our learning by exploring close to home in our local area. Following this, we will explore different locations further afield, on Earth and then beyond. This exploration will include finding out about the animals on safari in Africa, exploring Mount Everest as well as zooming off into Space. In the run up to Christmas, we shall explore what it is like in the part of the world where Santa lives.

Story telling

Throughout the term we will focus upon oral story telling. Initially, the adults will model storytelling and then the children will have plenty of opportunities to tell their own stories. This is such an important stage for the children and will help them to develop their story language, which will lay the foundations for written stories later on.

Phonics and reading

We have been really impressed with how quickly the children are picking up the grapheme phoneme correspondences (GPCs), formerly referred to as sounds or phonemes, and we are also so pleased to see the enthusiasm and confidence they demonstrate as they join in our daily phonics sessions. Please do continue to practise these GPCs daily at home with your children as this 'little and often' approach is so effective and really will make the difference with the progress your child will be able to make with early reading and writing. Please don't hesitate to come and speak to one of the EYFS team if you would like some more ideas on how to practise the sounds to help keep your child engaged and motivated.

As the children become more proficient and confident with blending letters for reading words, we shall start sending home a reading book. This will happen as and when your child is ready and this will be at different times for different children. When your child is ready, they will bring home a book that they will have already read in school three times. Please allow them to read this book to you every day for the week and celebrate their reading achievements. These should be celebratory reads!

Learning Journeys:

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have signed up to the Interactive Learning Diary (ILD). The ILD is a great opportunity for you to see some of the wonderful things your child does in school as well as share some of the things they are doing at home. You are able to like and comment on observations from school as well as post your own pictures from home. Parents have previously asked what sort of things to post; this can include day trips, home learning activities - the list is endless. Anything you or your child wish to share is useful. If you have not yet signed up or are unsure on how to do this, please email the school office.

Winter Clothing:

Please ensure that your child comes to school every day with a named, warm raincoat as we do try to go outside, even if it is a little wet. As the weather gets colder, please also ensure your child has a named hat and gloves.

Value:

Our value this term is Compassion. We will be finding out how Christians believe that their attitudes and actions should reflect the kindness, mercy and compassion of Jesus. We will be using the poem below to help us do this.

Costly caring
Offering help
Making a difference
Putting others first
Always listening
Sensitive to suffering
Service in action
Interested in others
Offering care and concern
Noticing a need.



Thank you in advance for your support.

The EYFS team