



Year R News-Term 2

Phoenix Community Primary School



News

Welcome back to all the Penguins and their families. We hope you have had a fantastic half term break and that the children are rested ready for the new term.

Class Teacher : Mrs Lockwood

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Buckman,
Mrs Demirel, Miss Penney

I enjoyed seeing you all at the parents meeting day last term and it was so nice to discuss your children and talk about their achievements.

Term 2 is always a very busy term with various activities and then of course the build up to Christmas activities and celebrations later this term. Even though it is only November you may find that that your child starts to talk about Christmas songs, as believe it or not we are starting to learn our Nativity songs.

Later this term your children will be taking part in the Key Stage 1 Nativity. This is a joyous event which I know you will love.

Literacy

In Reception we have a large emphasis on the teaching of early reading and writing.

The children have already learnt half of their sounds from the phonetic alphabet and by Christmas we will have talk all 26 letters. They are starting to sound out and blend simple words and it is lovely to see them applying this knowledge.

They will now be starting to use these sounds in their written work, through identifying the sounds they can hear in words.

Please keep practising their sounds in their reading cards and books. Record your comments in the purple exercise book.

Maths

In Reception we teach a large amount of our numeracy through practical activities, rhymes and songs and we also use Number Blocks as a starting point to our learning.



This term we will be learning how to count with increasing accuracy and fluency. We will be looking at how numbers are made up of others through simple addition and partitioning

Phonics & Reading

In Reception we use Read, Write Inc, to teach the children their phonic sounds.

We will be teaching the children to use their sounds to blend and segment simple words.

We change the children's reading books 3 times a week when they have read at home. Please read with your child at least 3 times a week. Research shows that this has a tremendous impact on their future abilities. Please share and talk about the story books.



PE- Takes place every Friday. They can wear their PE kit to school on Fridays.



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Important Dates

The school day starts at 8:40 and the register is taken at 8:50. The morning routine is an important part of settling into school, where the children learn independence and organisational skills.

The children will bring home letters and their work in their book bags. Please look in their book bags regularly as they can get quite full of all their achievements!

As the weather is starting to get colder, please can all children have a coat every day.

Topic

Our topic this term is 'Celebrations in Our Country'. This fits in with our whole school theme of Power and Empire'

We will be exploring these exploratory questions:

- What different celebrations do we know?
- Does everyone celebrate in the same way?
- What are the features of different festivals and celebrations?

We will be looking at pumpkins, autumn, Diwali, fireworks, birthdays and Christmas.

We will also be having a trip to Mote Park to see the autumn colours and collect leaves. More details to follow.

Outside Learning

The children will have access to the outside area during their Challenge sessions everyday, in all weathers.



Please ensure that you provide your child with suitable coats and footwear, if possible a pair of wellingtons that could stay at school.

Outdoor learning is a great way for children to explore and enquire about their environment. We will spend lots of time outside!



Suggested books and activities for home

Books

Please encourage your child to look at or read a variety of books. Sharing books together with your child is a rewarding experience for all.

Home Learning

Home Learning is given out on Friday to be returned the following week by Thursday. These activities are in their home learning book. These activities are a chance for you to talk about what your child has been learning and for you to share an activity based on our topic to be completed at home with your child.

On going Activities

Counting and recognising numbers to 20

Spotting numbers on doors, sign posts, number plates and posters.

Looking out for letters in the environment and practising sounding out simple words.