



# Ladybirds Newsletter

November 2018



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back and we hope you all enjoyed the half term break. On the reverse side of this newsletter you will find a topic web which will give you an indication of the things the children will be learning during this half term.

The children are making progress with learning their letter sounds but any support you can give with this would be greatly appreciated. They need to be able to recognise the letters from sight, sound



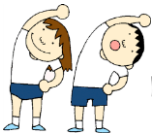
them out, form them correctly and then start to use them to build words. They have all also been given their first set of high frequency words on ladybird shapes. You can use these to support your child's learning at home. The word cards at the bottom of

the sheet can be used in different ways such as snap, lotto or matching pairs to make learning more fun. Please also continue to share your child's reading books and library books. This really does help to foster a love of books and ensure your child makes good progress. Please also remember to make a comment in their reading diary and ensure that your child's reading books and reading record book is in school each day, as it will be changed regularly. To help the children identify their own book bag quickly it is helpful to attach one small distinctive keyring to the handle. Do chat to us about this if you need to.

Although the weather has been unusually warm recently, winter is on its way so please do make sure your child has a warm, waterproof coat to wear as the children often choose to go outside and it would be appreciated if you could spend some time showing them how to do their coats up independently. We have noticed a difference in the children's use of knives and forks during lunchtimes but do please continue to practise using these at home.



The children's PE kits need to stay in school all week and will be sent home to wash at the end of the week. The children are managing well with changing for PE, but please name all items of clothing and look out for any items that do not belong to your child. Please also remove your child's earrings on their PE days, which are detailed on the classroom windows.



Please can we remind you that if you wish, your child can bring in a pair of named wellies on their Forest School day (Tuesday for Red Ladybirds, Wednesday for Yellow Ladybirds and Thursday for Blue Ladybirds). We do also have wellies at school to use so it helps if the children know what size they need.



Our 'workshop/junk' tables are very popular experience for the children and we are always in need of buttons, cardboard rolls, boxes, plastic trays and other 'junk' items. With Christmas on the way tinsel, sequins and glittery bits and pieces for making our Christmas decorations would also be very much appreciated and if you have any old Christmas cards or envelopes the children would love to use them in the writing area.

Very soon the children will be taking part in their first class assembly and we know the children will be delighted to see you there to share their learning with you. This will also be an ideal opportunity to write a WOW slip to go in your child's First Year at School book and visit the classroom. If you need any more WOW slips do let us know.

Dates for your diary: Foundation Stage Curriculum Evening Tuesday 13 November at 7.00 p.m.  
Blue Ladybirds class assembly is on Thursday 15 November at 9:00 a.m.  
Red Ladybirds class assembly is on Thursday 22 November at 9.00 a.m.  
Yellow Ladybirds class assembly is on Thursday 29 November at 9.00 a.m.

Finally, if there is anything that you would like to discuss, please feel free to request an informal chat at any time.

We do appreciate your continued support.

Best wishes,

The Early Years Team ☺

## Communication and Language

We will:

- listen to and retell stories and share our understanding through a range of activities such as drama and puppets.
- develop our understanding of descriptive words.
- use the language of stories in our play and develop our own ideas linking to stories we have shared.
- listen attentively and respond to instructions.
- begin to understand how to ask a question, using the correct vocabulary.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will:

- discuss the importance of being safe when using/watching fireworks.
- revisit our families topic and develop our understanding of respecting others feelings and treating others well.
- listen to each other and negotiate ideas when we play together.
- discuss and develop our understanding about giving to others being as important as receiving gifts from others.
- develop the confidence to speak and sing for an audience in our assemblies and the Christmas production.

## Physical Development

### Dance/Gym Sessions

We will:

- explore how to move our bodies rhythmically to music. Exploring how to use space well, working with a partner and collaborating with others when creating an autumnal and a Christmas dance.
- develop our muscle control by exploring different ways to move our bodies. We will develop the ability to throw, catch and kick a ball.

### Continuous Provision

We will develop our fine motor skills using various tools and equipment and know how to use them safely and develop our gross motor skills in the outdoor area in a variety of ways.

## Literacy

We will:

- share our understanding of stories through role play, hot seating, small world toys and puppet play.
- begin to blend and segment sounds in simple words during reading and writing tasks.
- learn to write our names and other things such as labels, messages and captions.
- verbally retell a story confidently and sequence it using pictures.
- use our sounds to write a recipe and list of instructions.
- Role play in Percy the Park Keepers shed and in the home corner and deconstructed role play areas

# November 2018



Autumn  
Fireworks  
Gingerbread Man  
Christmas



## Mathematics

We will:

- count and order numbers up to twenty.
- begin to develop our knowledge and understanding of 2D and 3D shapes..
- weigh objects and discuss which is the heaviest and the lightest.
- use number blocks to support the learning of one number, introducing a new number each week.

## Expressive and Creative Arts

We will:

- make and decorate a Diva lamp using clay.
- explore how to create a blow and a splat painting.
- use a range of materials and tools to make Christmas decorations, cards and a calendar.
- explore musical sounds and make up simple rhythms using musical instruments.
- do leaf rubbings, using leaves collected from an autumnal walk.
- experience and learn to sing Christmas songs.
- prepare for our class assembly and Christmas performances.
- do an observational drawing of our class tree.
- do a collage of and use pastels to create the Gingerbread Man.
- learn some simple Bollywood dance moves.
- listen to different genres of music and explain how it makes us feel.

## Understanding the World

We will:

- observe, explore and talk about objects and changes in Forest School during autumn.
- explore natural materials and make 2D shapes using them.
- make gingerbread biscuits in the cookery room.
- use junk to create models so the Gingerbread Man can safely cross the river.

### Technology

- learn how to use the 2paint programme to create a self-portrait.
- do a Rangoli pattern on the laptop.
- learn how to program the Bee-Bots.

### RE

- learn about Hanukah.
- learn about Diwali and make Diva lamps.
- learn the Christmas story.