



## Year R Autumn Term Newsletter 2019



Welcome to Year R! I am very excited to meet all of your children and hope they have a happy, settled and confident start to their first year of school. I will be teaching the class, supported by Mr Eddington. All the children's learning will be theme-based. 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. One of the wonderful things about the EYFS curriculum is the freedom to be guided by your children's passions and interests. Due to this there is not a set topic for after half term but as I get to know the children they will choose where their learning takes us. However, I have included important skills that will be covered after half term. As a school we have six Christian values, the first school value this term is Community and after half term 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 picnic. After half term we 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 will begin to explore numbers from 1 to 20 and really unpicking what each number means. We will practise writing each numeral and representing it in lots of different ways, using a variety of objects. Our aim will be to help Buddy learn his numbers 1-20 as he gets very confused sometimes! We will use positional language to describe where things are using our main texts to help us e.g - Bear hunt - 'we can't go over it, we can't go under it.... we'll have to go through it!'. After half term we will estimating, comparing and saying one more or less than a given number. We will also learning and describing 2D shapes.

### **Phonics**

We will begin to recap the Phase 2 phonemes (sounds) that the children may have covered in their nursery settings. After this, we will move on to learning the Phase 3 phonemes. Please encourage your children to consolidate their understanding of these by using this knowledge while reading books.

## **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. Staff will be encouraging and modelling to the children how 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 their feelings when angry.

## **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 considering the children's similarities and differences and celebrating them using their own teddies as a basis. We will also be considering the similarities and differences within people's families by looking at their customs and routines. After half term we will be looking closely at similarities, patterns and change.

## **Physical development**

During this half term, the children will do PE in their school uniform so no PE kit is needed. After half term, the children will start practising getting dressed. Please ensure children have the correct P.E kit: navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and yellow Tshirts. Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

Arts are a very important part of our learning in Reception. 'EAD' covers art, music and drama skills. Through our oral story retelling, we will also be exploring how to work together to act out a narrative and represent our ideas in imaginative ways. We will use a range of resources to build imaginatively, children will be encouraged to plan what they intend to make and how they will achieve this before they get stuck in! After half term we will be exploring song and dance and finding out what happens when we mix colours.

## **Reading**

Reading books and reading records will be sent out after 'Meet the Teacher' on 17<sup>th</sup> September. Please read regularly at home with your child as this is very important for the development of their reading and writing skills. Please keep your reading record book in your child's book bag at all times and ensure they are signed regularly.

## **RE**

Our focus this term 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 begin the year by attending all Friday celebration Collective Worships and will progressively attend more throughout the year.

## **Homework**

Homework books will be sent home on Fridays and should be handed back in by the following Wednesday. We also send a weekly homework letter which contains a brief overview of our learning throughout the week. There will also be a voluntary activity for the children, to reinforce their learning. Please feel free to cover these books to keep them looking smart.

## **Dates to remember:**

W/C 16th September - Internal After school clubs start

17<sup>th</sup> September - Meet the Teacher

24th September - Year R and Year 1 Phonics Parents' Evening

Monday 7th October - INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

11th October - Harvest Service - Christ Church - 1.30 pm

14th October - PTFA - Bags 2 School return (9 am)

14th October 2019 PTFA Cinema night 3.15 pm - 5.15 pm

18th October - Headteacher's Tours (Admission for Reception Class 2020) 9.45 am - 10.30 am 11.00 am - 11.45 am

22nd October - Nasal Flu spray - whole school

28th October - HALF TERM

## **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.

## **PPA**

On Friday afternoon, I have my weekly non-contact time. During this time, the children will be taught by Mr Eddington and Mrs Fowler (who the children met on their taster day) Friday afternoon will follow the normal routine.

*I am delighted to be working here at Nutfield Church Primary and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know your children over the last few days. Parent - teacher relationships are really important 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 me in the playground at the end of the day. I am very happy to answer your queries and it is always good to see you! If you would like to speak with me more privately, please see me or write in the home contact book to arrange an appointment.*

*Mrs Summers, Mr Eddington*

*Year R team*