



## Year R Autumn Term Newsletter 2021



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 'Bob the Bear starts school'. Bob 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.

### **Literacy**

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 our 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 Bob the Bear 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 be estimating, comparing and saying one more or less than a given number. We will also be 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 Bob the Bear 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 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 Bob the Bear 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.*

### ***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.*

### ***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 T-shirts. Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named.*

### ***Reading***

*Reading books and reading records have been given to each child. Please read regularly at home with them 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. As part of our daily timetable, as a class each morning we pray, read a small part of a children's version of the Bible and listen to a children's worship song. On a Friday the children will attend the whole school Collective Worship in the hall led by either Miss Woods, Mrs Benjamin or Mrs Brooks.*

## **Homework**

*Starting on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 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:**

*25.10.21. to 29.10.21 - Half Term  
26.11.21 - INSET Day  
30.11.21 - St. Andrew's Day  
(children in this team are allowed to wear blue t-shirts).  
30.11.21 to 03.12.21 3:30 to 6:30pm -  
Parents' and Carers' Evenings  
(telephone).  
13.12.21 and 14.12.21 at 2pm -  
Nativity  
15.12.21 - Christmas lunch  
17.12.21 - Christmas service  
17.12.21 - Break up for Christmas*

## **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 Wednesday mornings, I have my weekly non-contact time. During this time, the children will be taught by Mrs Brooks and Mr Eddington. The children will follow the normal routine.*

*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 Rutter and Mr Eddington  
Year R team*