



## Dormice Class Autumn Term Newsletter

Welcome to Dormice Class! We hope you all had a relaxing summer and are ready for a very busy and exciting first term in Reception! This newsletter will give you lots of information about the coming term and all the learning that we will be doing!

**This term we will be covering the following themes...**

All about me, My family, My body, My feelings, My Community and Autumn

### **PSED Personal, social and emotional development**

In PSED we will be mainly focussing on the rules and routines of the classroom and the school. Getting to know and exploring the environment and accessing the areas appropriately. We will be exploring the different emotions that we feel and how to deal with them.



### **Communication and Language**

Our focus in communication and language this term will be listening to each other's ideas and sharing our own in front of the group. We will be talking about our likes and dislikes and ways that we are similar and different to our friends. We will also be introducing the children to helicopter stories which encourages and allows children to use their imagination to tell their own stories.



### **Physical Development**

We will be spending lots of time exploring our environment and learning to use different equipment safely. We will be focussing on making marks and patterns in different textures and doing lots of different activities to make our hands and fingers strong and ready for writing. We will be starting 'dough disco' and funky fingers sessions every day. Weekly, the children will have PE lessons and they will need to wear their PE kits for these days. We will also be exploring our outdoor resources and moving in different ways.



## Phonics

We will be beginning our daily phonics sessions which are an exciting step on the journey to reading and writing. The children will learn four sounds each week alongside learning the skills of blending and segmenting. Details of the sounds we are learning each week will be in our weekly newsletter so that you can help them practise at home.

Phonics  
ee ur ow  
wh y au

## Writing

This term we will be doing lots and lots of name writing practice. The children will be encouraged to write their name in different textures and using different media such as paint and collage. In addition to this children will be encouraged to make different marks and patterns and begin to form letters alongside their phonics learning. The children will be encouraged to write in their own play and give meaning to the marks they make, for example writing shopping lists in the home corner or writing labels for their models in the construction area.



## Reading

During the first few weeks of this term, we will be reading and exploring lots of stories related to the topic of the week. We will be focussing on reading for pleasure and spending time talking about stories and talking about why we like or don't like them.

The children will start bringing home a book to share once they begin visiting the library (week 2). This is a book they have chosen to share with you. Please encourage them to talk about the book and ask them lots of questions. Later in the term, the children will be allocated reading books which match our phonics scheme. Further information to follow in due course.



## Mathematics

Our maths learning follows the 'White Rose Maths' scheme. White Rose is a mastery approach to mathematics ensuring mastery of skills at basic levels before applying these skills to larger numbers. Our maths topic this term is 'Just Like Me'. The children will be doing lots of matching and sorting using real objects. They will then be comparing size, mass and capacity through lots of exploration and investigation. Books will often be used as a starting point for introducing mathematical concepts to help the children understand them and link them to 'real life'.



### **Understanding the World**

In this area we will start by exploring the school and finding out where different places are and who works in school to help us. We will then be thinking about ourselves, our families, other families and discussing how they are similar and different. We will be using the Woodlands to discover signs of Autumn and other woodlands-like activities. Later in the term, we will be learning about some people who work in our community and how they help us.



### **Expressive Arts and Design**

Our role play area is a home corner encouraging the children to act in role as familiar characters from home and in familiar situations.

The children will have the opportunity to explore different media such as paint, collage and transient art to make different representations including their name, face and family.

We will be singing lots of popular and familiar songs and doing lots of actions to accompany these.

The children will be encouraged to explore our construction areas to build and develop their own role play and ideas.



## **Information and reminders**

### **Names, names, names**

Please, please make sure all items of clothing are clearly named. This will enable us to return items to you, should they go missing.

### **Outdoor Explorers**

Just a reminder that the children will each need a puddle suit or alternative suitable waterproof and wellies for our forest school style lessons in the forest. These will need to stay in school until half term when they will be sent home to be washed.

### **Parent Workshops**

Miss Payne will be running a number of parent workshops this term, giving more information about different areas of the curriculum and giving ideas for supporting at home. Please look out for dates in upcoming

### **PE Kits**

We have decided that children will wear their PE kit to school and wear it all day on their PE days. This term we will be having PE on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**.

Thank you for your support so far. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to one of us at any time.

Miss Payne, Mrs Panesar and Miss Atkins

### **Family photo**

We will be talking about families a lot over the next few weeks and would like to make a display of family photos. Please send in a recent family photo as soon as possible.