

St George Class Newsletter



Dear Parents

I hope you all had a good half term. The following is a rough guide as to what we will be looking at and what is happening this half term during the run up to Christmas. If you have any questions please ask and we will try our best to help.

Mornings

The children have settled into the routines and are keen to find their name on one of the tables to begin completing an activity which are usually based around developing their fine motor skills. These will change weekly and the children will alternate between both activities so they are accessing different resources and developing different skills. During this time children may be asked to come and complete small activities with me so it is really important that the children are on time and put their things away quickly.

If children bring in a snack, could you please remind them before they come into school to put it in their drawer so they can get to it easily during the day rather than leaving it in their book bags. It would also help if they put hats, gloves and scarves in their drawers to get to easily and **please make sure they are named.**

We have a blue book in the classroom in the register and letter tray. If there are changes in arrangements for home time please let us know when you drop your child off and we will write it in the book or please telephone the office. We must have your permission to release your child into the care of someone other than yourselves (even other family members). If you have forgotten to pass on a message and haven't remembered to phone school, then we will need to ring to confirm arrangements with you before we let the children go. If it is going to be a regular arrangement where someone else will be picking up it would be a good idea to email the office or speak to Mrs Creasey so we have a record of it which will save you from ringing up every time.

PE

Our PE will usually be on a Monday morning with NUFC and Wednesday afternoon so on these days children need to come to school wearing their PE kit. I do like to take the children outside for PE when the weather permits so please send a spare pair of shoes in a bag on PE days in case they need to be changed.



Wellies

Thank you for all sending in a named pair of wellies. We have put them to good use and we will continue to use them when we go out for outdoor learning sessions. If you think that your child may have grown out of the ones in school please ask us and we can send them home to check and you can replace them if needs be.

Reading and keywords

The children are enjoying the shared library books and their school reading books. We will still be changing books on a Monday and a comment is needed to let me know that they have read to you, in order for me to change their book. Remember school is aiming for children to read at home at least 3 times per week so please try and ensure this happens. The children have made great progress already with their reading and recognition of sounds and sight words on the red cards. More of these will be sent home throughout the term to keep learning. It is still really important to encourage children to sound out words which they are unfamiliar with but starting to encourage them to sound out words in their head before reading them. This is a skill we will be practicing during Read Write Inc. this half term and the children will remember it as 'Fred in your head' as we want the children to become independent readers and not rely on sounding out everything they read.

Reading and library books will come home on a Monday after being changed and need to be returned in the large plastic packet on a Friday. The yellow handwriting folders which were given out last half term stay at home and any additional worksheets we send home can be added to this. Flash cards and high frequency words will be sent out at different times throughout the term which stay at home to be practiced regularly.

At times quite a few different things may be sent home all together. Please don't tackle everything at once. It is really important to read and practice key skills little and often. The more children practice, the more they gain confidence and the quicker they will progress.

Topics

Over this half term we will be covering the following themes, Diwali and Remembrance Day before moving onto castles linking to St George and the Dragon, winter and Christmas. We had planned to cover St George during our first half term but focused on classic familiar stories which the children had thoroughly enjoyed. If the children's interests change, we may make slight changes along the way.

We have had a great first half term and really looking forward to what Autumn 2 has in store for us. Photos are posted on Tapestry regularly so please make sure you log in frequently to see what we have been getting up to.



If you have any questions please do not hesitate to let me know and we can arrange to have a chat.

Mrs Whaley and Mrs Parker