



## Autumn 2

### Half Term Information for Parents

### Reception

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Reception and hope you had a lovely half term break. This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

**Themes:** Autumn 2 – 'Once upon a Time...' (theatre based)

#### **Cross curricular links:**

**Literacy:** We will be learning about the traditional tales: 'Hansel and Gretel' and 'Little Red Riding Hood'. We also be looking at the story of Aladdin linked to our theatre art project with the People's Theatre and 'Happy Birthday Winnie' linked to Halloween. The children will have access to these stories in different forms and will rehearse the story language through role play using puppets in our theatre role play area or masks and props.

**Communication and Language:** Opportunities are provided for children to engage in conversations and discussions around their play and are encouraged to participate in whole class activities. We will have regular circle times to help children develop the skills to listen to others when they are speaking and take turns. We will share a Wow Word of the week to help develop children's vocabulary. The children will continue to develop their enjoyment for rhymes and their ability to join in

with patterned language by singing nursery and number rhymes.

The children will have the opportunity to develop their listening and speaking skills by sharing objects or information with their friends through 'News' (show and tell). They will be encouraged to introduce a storyline or narrative into play and use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences through the use of our puppet theatre role play.

**Understanding the World:** Children will learn about the enjoyment of joining in with family customs and routines through learning about Halloween and Christmas celebrations and traditions. They will have opportunities to talk about special times and events for family or friends. They will also think about, discuss and recognise some of the things that make them unique.

**Expressive Art and Design:** This year the children across the school will be creating art work to be displayed in the People's Theatre during their performances of Aladdin; this years pantomime. They will explore different mediums and colours through this People's Theatre art project. Children will have opportunities to engage in imaginative role-play and build stories around toys such as puppets through the use of our puppet theatre. They will use available resources to create props to support role-play. Through preparing for our Christmas show they will sing familiar and new songs.

**Physical Development:** Children will have daily access to our outside area where they can develop and practice their gross motor skills. Activities to help develop funky fingers and build up finger, hand and arm strength for writing will be provided every day. The children will be expected to participate in 1 lesson of PE per week where they will get changed into their PE kits -This will be on a Monday. The children will be dancing to help develop their fundamental skills linked to body awareness such as movement, travelling and shapes.

**Personal Social and Emotional Development:** We will be encouraging the children to develop their confidence asking for help and to talk to their friends about their homes and communities. Through all Early Year activities we constantly encourage the children to take turns and share and understand how to look after different equipment and resources. We will also be looking at what we are good at in relation to actors in plays, talent shows in theatres and characters encouraging the children to talk about themselves positively through conversation.

#### **Subjects being taught separately this half term:**

##### **Maths:**

The following objectives will be covered throughout this term:

- Counting and recognition of numbers 1-15
- Count how many in a group of up to 15 objects.
- Count out up to 15 objects from a larger group.
- Select correct numeral to represent 1-15 objects.
- Use the language of more and fewer to compare two sets of objects.

- Find the total number of items in two groups by counting all of them.
- Say the number that is one more than a given number.
- Find one more or one less from a group of up to 10 objects.
- Begin to use vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting practically.

### How can you help?

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn-8:50 for Reception.
- We always enjoy hearing about your child's achievements, big and small! Trying a new food, climbing to the top of the slide in the park, sleeping all night in their own bed; Wow stars are displayed at the entrance to Nursery, please fill these in and they will be stuck into your child's Reception Learning Journey. This will help build a record of their achievements across the year.
- Activities to try at home: sharing books, help sort the washing, counting as you go up and down the stairs, laying the table, practise putting shoes and coats on, mark making with different materials- painting with water, finger tracing with rice in baking trays.

### Homework

- Clarence the Crocodile is our class mascot and will go home with a different child every weekend.
- Homework aims to be fun and as practical as possible – the current Homework Policy is under review at New Hartley and as soon as this has been confirmed we will let you know any changes in expectations.

### Class Reminders

- Please help us by naming clothing, particularly jumpers and coats.
- We will be outside every day so your child needs a warm coat.
- Children's PE kits will go home every half term and are to be returned to school within the first week of the following half term.