

## Autumn 1 – Reception Class Newsletter

Hello and welcome to Reception class at Hady Primary School. We are really excited to be working with you this year and helping your children to grow, learn and flourish.

Miss Skilton is the teacher for Chatsworth class (also known as Elephant class) and Miss Sunderland is the teacher for Hardwick class (also known as Giraffe class). Miss Alexander is our Teaching assistant across the Reception unit.

Our topic for this half term is '*Why do squirrels hide their nuts?*'. During this topic we will explore all things autumn with a focus on seasons, woodland animals and changes to our environment. Phonics will be taught daily following the '*Letters and Sounds*' scheme and we will start with phase 2 sounds and continue from there. For maths we are focusing on numbers 1-10 to begin with, this includes exploring these numbers to develop our mastery and reasoning. We will also look at basic shapes and patterns.

'*Numberblocks*' are a great resource for developing number knowledge. We will use these in class to support maths learning. Everyone should have access to '*Tapestry*' and this is where you will be able to see observations on your child and you will be able to comment and add your own observations too (see the weekly home learning ideas below). This is a great platform for us to use in partnership to support your child on their learning journey.

Please see the grid on the next page for a little more of a breakdown for each week.

Week	Topic overview	Phonics/high frequency words/tricky words	Home learning <i>(please add to tapestry)</i>
Week 1	Introduction to the class topic including looking at autumn, visit to the school woodland area, learning routines.	s, a, t, p a, at, as,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Autumn walk – what do you see in your local environment?</li> </ul>
Week 2	Woodland creature focus; habitats, describing and naming animals and features.	i, n, m, d is, it, in, an l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Eye spy – what can you spy using the sounds learnt in week 1/2.</li> </ul>
Week 3	Autumn colours including colour mixing to make orange etc.	g, o, c, k, and, can, back, on no, go	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maths – order numbers to 10 and have a go at writing these numbers</li> </ul>
Week 4	Squirrels facts. Example: diet, hibernation, habitat.	ck, e, u, r up, mum, get to, the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Can you draw and label a picture of a squirrel. Think about describing</li> </ul>

			what it looks like to your grown up.
Week 5	Autumn weather, days shorter, temperature etc.	h, b, f, ff off, of, his, him into	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treasure hunt – add the sounds learnt so far to post-it notes, hunt around your house to find things beginning with these sounds. Say the sound to your grown up.</li> </ul>
Week 6	Harvest festival, saying thank you, looking at foods that are harvested this time of year.	l, ll, ss if, dad, had, big, not, got, but l, no, go, to, the, into	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maths – shape hunt. Look around your house and/or garden for shapes in the environment.</li> <li>• <i>Square, Circle, Triangle, Rectangle.</i></li> </ul>
Week 7	Autumn foods, and recipes. Book – Pumpkin soup by Helen Cooper	Phase 2 revise all above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autumn pumpkins - create a pumpkin picture or help a grown up to</li> </ul>

		sounds and words.	design and carve your own pumpkin.
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### Important dates:

- First day: Wednesday 2nd September. We are really excited to meet you!
- Teacher meetings (virtual): Monday 14th September 4:30pm. You will receive more information on this via Parent Hub.
- European day of Languages: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September. We will sample some food from around the world.
- Half term: week commencing Monday 26th October.

### Weekly needs:

- PE kits: Children will need to have a PE kit for indoor and outdoor PE. Please ensure all items are clearly named. It might help your child to have a practice getting in and out of their PE kit and uniform. Kits will need to be in school every **Monday morning** and they will be sent home every **Friday afternoon**.
- Reading: your child will bring home a reading book once a week. Please ensure you read with your child daily for 20 minutes. This can include looking at and talking about the pictures, predicting what's

going to happen as well as sounding out the letters to blend into a word. *For Miss Sunderland's class will change books on Monday's and Miss Skilton's class will be on Tuesday's.*

- Tapestry: every parent should have a log in now (if not please let us know). We would love to see the weekly home learning tasks added to Tapestry and please feel free to comment on observations made by staff. This is a great platform to communicate your child's progress and see what they've been up to in school.
- Snack and Drinks: please can all children have a named water bottle and healthy snack for school every day. This can include fruit and vegetables.
- Coats: while we have had an amazing summer this year we are now feeling the effects of autumn. Please can all children come to school with a named coat every day as the weather can be unpredictable sometimes.
- Parent Hub: please ensure you have access to this to receive updates from the school and teachers.
- Drop off and Pick up: When dropping off please say your goodbyes at the gate as we are limiting adults on site at this time. Pick ups are happening at the classroom doors, please be mindful that these are smaller areas and we need to follow social distancing guidelines as recommended by the Government. Please also make ensure your child is walking with you at these times for safeguarding purposes.
- Picking up: If someone else is picking up your child we ask that they provide a password (shared with the teacher) and that you let the office know.

As a school we are doing everything we can to keep our children, families and school community safe and happy at this time. For more information on this please see the school website. We hope you enjoy the first term of 2020 and beyond. Please let a member of the team know if you have any questions or if there's anything you want to discuss. We are excited to be working with you and your children and look forward to making many memories with you all. Here's to a fantastic year!

Best wishes,

Miss Skilton, Miss Sunderland and Miss Alexander.

