

Year R Newsletter

January 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and had a great start to the New Year. It was fantastic to see so many of our parents at our Christmas productions, the children worked so hard to learn all of the songs and actions, especially in Spanish!

What an exciting start to the new term we have had! We believe we may have some dinosaur eggs hatching in our playground and the children have already begun learning about eggs and which animals lay eggs.

Thank you for your participation on Bug Club and Mathletics, the children are always talking about their achievements! If you have forgotten your password, just ask us for your child's details. If you are currently experiencing issues with Mathletics, please let us know as we are currently trying to resolve any issues.

Kind regards,

The Year R Team

Chinese New Year

On Saturday 28th January, it is the Chinese New Year. The week leading up to this day, we will be exploring what Chinese New Year is and the traditions that happen around this time. It is important for our children to learn about other communities and have the opportunity to try new experiences.

As part of our Chinese New Year celebrations, the children will have the chance to taste some Chinese food including prawn crackers, soy sauce, egg fried rice and dumplings. This will happen on Thursday 26th January.

If you do not wish your child to take part or you would like to discuss your child's allergies, please arrange to speak to your child's class teacher after school via the blue contact book.

Polite reminders...

Please can we ask that your child has 1 or 2 very small key rings attached to their book bags? We are finding it difficult to fit some book bags in trays because of the size and quantity of key rings. Also, toys are not allowed at school.

All parents should be approaching the gate to collect their child from the class teacher at the end of the school day. Please also remind relatives and childminders who will be picking up your children. This is for your child's safety as the playground is very busy with other parents passing in front of our gates.

As the weather is turning even colder and wetter, it is more important than ever that your child has the appropriate clothing for P.E and Forest School. Your children will sometimes participate in outdoor P.E and will therefore need tracksuit bottoms, jackets and socks to replace tights for hygiene reasons.

What will we be learning about this term?

Topics: 'Whose egg is this?' and 'Was it once a mixed up time?'

Literacy: Beginning to use their ability to sound out and blend words to write labels, captions and short sentences. We will shortly be moving onto phase 3 phonics – looking at digraphs (2 letters that make 1 sound. E.g. sh, ch, th, ng).

Maths: Measuring height (non-standard units), adding two sets (practical addition), recognising coins and beginning to add their values, doubling, 3D shapes and using ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd).

Understanding of the World: Talking about similarities and differences between objects, traditions and places (China), explaining why things happen and how things work, comparing materials and their properties and understanding past and present (dinosaurs).

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 26th January – Chinese food tasting

Friday 10th February – Last Day of term

Monday 20th February – Term 4 starts



FOREST SCHOOL

Thank you to all of our parents who have volunteered for Forest School so far, it wouldn't be the same experience for the children without you! We have some really positive comments about our Forest School sessions and hope to welcome some different parents to our next sessions. Below is a list of forest school dates for each class and some reminders of how our forest school sessions work.

- Forest school takes place in practically all weathers.
- Winter forest school clothing includes wellies, hats, gloves, extra socks and a waterproof layer over their coats.
- All parents/grandparents/carers of children in Year R are welcome to volunteer.
- We invite a maximum of 5 parents per session.
- We select different parents each time so everyone gets a chance.
- Parents can volunteer via their child's contact book.
- Class teachers will let you know if you are needed for the session via the contact book.
- We need to know about any interest by the Friday before the forest school is taking place. This is because we need to complete safeguarding procedures before we can have visitors to be onsite.
- Forest school starts at 9:15am.
- Parent volunteers sign in at the office after drop off and are collected by a member of the YR team.



Term 3 dates*

Hedgehogs – Tuesday 10th January

Owls – Tuesday 17th January

Bears – Tuesday 24th January

Whole year group – Tuesday 31st January

Term 4 dates*

Hedgehogs - Tuesday 28th February

Owls - Tuesday 7th March

Bears - Tuesday 21st March

Whole year group - Tuesday 28th March

*These dates are subject to change.

We look forward to seeing you at our Forest School sessions!