

## Welcome

We hope you have all had a lovely half term break and have been able to enjoy the mild Autumn weather we have been having. We have enjoyed getting to know the children over the last 7 weeks and now and look forward to building on the skills the children have been working on.

### Reading books

At the beginning of Reception, we started the reading journey with wordless books. This helps us focus on reading behaviours before reading words. We have included a QR code on each book to provide a model of how to use these books at home. Some children will now start to bring books with words home too!

All parents and carers have now received their log in details for Collins Big Cat online. We will be assigning online books to your child each week.

All bookbags will continue to be sent home on a **Monday** and should be returned to school on a **Friday**.



The children are working hard in their "Little Wandle" daily phonics sessions and are making progress, learning to recognise and say the sounds we have learnt so far.

Well done boys and girls!

## PE kit

PE will continue to be on a **Tuesday morning for RCM** and a **Wednesday morning for RSW**. Please send your child in suitable sportswear and sports shoes on this day and please be aware that we usually have PE outside!

**Please remove earrings as a precaution.**



## EYFS - Reception Autumn 2

### Labelling of clothes

Please could you ensure that your child's name is written in ALL of their clothing.

Please remember that drinks bottles for the classroom must only contain water! No juice please.

As the weather gets a little colder and changeable please ensure your child comes to school in a warm coat, preferably with a hood. It is important that all children come to school in shoes that are sturdy and suitable to outdoor play- we like to be out in all weathers!



## Keeping in touch

We use Tapestry to share your child's learning with you so you can see all the fun they are having in class. You can even add your own observations so we can share in their experiences at home. Please look out for the weekly phonics videos we upload too!

If you have any concerns or queries, please always approach us to discuss these or arrange a meeting. We are always happy to help in any way we can.

### The school day

8.40am - Reception gates open

8.45am- Reception door opens

3.20pm – Reception door opens

(1.35pm on a Thursday!)

### The EYFS team

Assistant Head and Phase Leader

Mrs Smith [louise.smith2@vennacademy.org](mailto:louise.smith2@vennacademy.org)

RSW- Mrs Smith and Mrs Walker

Mrs Walker [lyndsey.walker@vennacademy.org](mailto:lyndsey.walker@vennacademy.org)

Mrs Ellwood

Mrs Comins

Mrs Sharp

RCM- Mrs Metcalfe

Mrs Metcalfe

[charlene.metcalfe@vennacademy.org](mailto:charlene.metcalfe@vennacademy.org)

Mrs Taylor

Mrs Scarr

<p><b><u>Personal Social and Emotional Development</u></b></p> <p>Your child will continue with the friendships they have made and will begin to elaborate and extend their play ideas with their friends. They will continue to learn about being a good Griffin citizen and sharing resources with others. They will be talking about what celebrations mean to them and feelings associated with this, alongside considering the feelings of others linked to celebrations.</p> <p>You can help at home by discussing family celebrations such as birthdays &amp; Christmas. Ask your children what they look forward to and why.</p>	<p><b><u>Understanding the World</u></b></p> <p>Your child will learn that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways and at different times of the year. We will look at times such as Bonfire Night, Diwali, Birthdays and Christmas. They will continue to learn and explore the natural world around them as they frequently take part in learning opportunities outdoors, as well as learning the effects caused by the changing of seasons.</p> <p>You can help at home by discussing family celebrations such as birthdays &amp; Christmas.</p> <p>When out &amp; about discuss features you can see and feel eg different coloured leaves on the ground, change in weather etc</p>	<p><b><u>Physical Development</u></b></p> <p>Alongside their weekly P.E session, your child will continue to engage in activities both indoors &amp; outdoors to develop and extend their overall body strength &amp; coordination, which will help them will all areas of their curriculum.</p> <p>Children will develop their fine motor skills through opportunities such as tweezer activities, threading, manipulating play dough, drawing, writing and cutting, which will help their pencil control. As the weather is getting colder, your child will be changing, independently, into coats and wellies more frequently.</p> <p>You can help at home by encouraging your children to independently put on their coat and fasten it, along with taking shoes &amp; wellies on and off.</p>	<p><b><u>Literacy</u></b></p> <p>Alongside your child's daily phonics sessions they will be engaging in a variety of activities to develop their hand, arm and body muscles indoors and outdoors to help them get ready to write. They will be exploring celebration fiction and non fiction texts and learning through these. Your child will also begin reading as part of a small group x3 a week. These books will be matched to their phonics. The children will learn book behaviours such as turning pages, following text correctly as well as sound talk and blending words.</p> <p>Your child will continue practising letter formation and their name frequently.</p> <p>You can help at home by modelling your writing and drawings by explaining what you are doing. You could also discuss letters in your child's name.</p> <p>When out &amp; about play 'I spy' and identify what letter sounds things begin with. This helps children begin to identify sounds at the beginning of words. Enjoy sharing your child's bedtime book and your thoughts about what you are reading. Whether you like it or not!</p>
<p align="center"><b><u>Autumn 2 – Reception</u></b> <b>Celebrations and Special Times.</b></p>			

### Reading

Thank you for all of the observations you are sending in of your children taking part in activities at home. It is lovely to see all of the things they are doing. Please continue to do this.

Weekly phonics videos will continue to be uploaded for your child to practise at home. Please upload any reading, mark making or writing your child does with you as we love to see them using their learning at home.

### Expressive Arts and Design

Your child will continue to paint, draw, mix colours, create models, sing songs and explore musical instruments. They will have the opportunity to practise some skills linked with our learning theme of celebrations.

Your child will have opportunity to engage in role play either in the home corner, linked to a story or through our celebrations theme. They will also continue to learn, rehearse and perform songs and explore musical instruments.

You can help at home by singing songs, tapping out a beat or providing opportunity for your child to explore their creative skills.

### Communication and Language

Your child will continue to have lots of opportunities to talk to their friends and staff through a range of activities. Your child will take part in circle times during PSHE and RE which allows them the time to give their opinion and explain their thoughts using the conjunction 'because'. They will also learn new words and vocabulary from stories, themed based activities, songs and books.

You can help at home by asking them about their day and the things it is they have been doing. When reading stories explain new words and their meaning to expand their vocabulary.

### Mathematics

**In maths we work on a 'Maths Mastery' approach. This means we explore a number and everything to do with it. What is and what is not the number, doubling, halving, more and less as well as knowing number facts. We are also working on subitising. This is the ability for children to know an amount of objects, 0-5, without counting. We do this in lots of different contexts.**

You can help at home by singing songs like "1,2,3,4,5 once I caught..." or any other number rhymes such as 5 speckled frogs, 5 currant buns etc.

Whilst out and about you can spot numbers in shops, on buses, road signs, house numbers etc. Throw dice with your child and get them to shout out the number without counting.