



## Headteacher Newsletter 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

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Key Dates:	
W/B 6 <sup>th</sup> November Diwali celebrations week	14 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> November Little Wandle parent sessions
6 <sup>th</sup> November EMTAS information session for parents	17 <sup>th</sup> November Children in Need
9 <sup>th</sup> November Year 2 Try Science	17 <sup>th</sup> November School disco
W/B 13 <sup>th</sup> November Anti bullying week	W/B 27 <sup>th</sup> November book Fair

Communications this week:	
New HC3S Menus	Y1 Curriculum News
Pupil Premium & FSM funding	
Y1 RHE Letter & Policy	
Y2 Curriculum News	

Dear Parents & Carers,

The children have settled back into school brilliantly after the half term holiday, we hope you all enjoyed the break together. Although it has been a rather short first week back for the children with INSET day and the emergency closure on Thursday due to storm Ciaran we still seem to have packed lots in! Year two started the week with a fantastic history trip to Tudor House in Southampton. Everyone enjoyed dress up day on Wednesday to help raise funds for the HSPTA - there were some super costumes! Year two also loved learning about the Mexican Day of the Dead festival from one of our families sharing their own experiences and celebrations. Year R and 1 have also loved getting stuck into their new learning journeys. Thank you for your continued support and for supporting your child with home learning yesterday with the unexpected closure.

We were really proud to receive a letter from Amanda Spielman recognising the significant achievement of our outstanding grading through Ofsted. Please see the attached letter.

### Diwali Celebrations

Next week the children will be finding out more about Diwali, if your family celebrate this festival, please could you let the class teacher know. It would be great if your child could share some of their experiences and bring in items or photos to share with their class/year group. If any of you as parents or carers would be willing to talk to the children about Diwali, we would really welcome you to come into school next week.

### Disco

We are looking forward to our first school disco of the year after school on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. There will be a separate communication next week with further details and timings.

### Save the Date - Little Wandle Information Meetings

A reminder to put one of the following dates in your diary to find out all about how we teach phonics in school and how you can support your child's reading at home:

- **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 9am**
- **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm**

### English as Additional Language Coffee Afternoon

We look forward to some of you joining us next Monday for our coffee afternoon at 2.15pm. Please ensure you have signed up for this event via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/ktFJDc1dRx> We will be providing an opportunity for you to:

- Meet other parents/carers with bilingual children and the professionals who work alongside the school
- Find out how you can help your children with their learning
- Understand how you can work in partnership with schools – on key issues such as promoting good attendance
- Talk about which language(s) to use at home
- Find out about your rights and responsibilities as a parent/carer
- Ask questions

## **Children in Need-Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

There will be a separate communication about Children in Need with a fundraising link. Some of the junior school children are running a cake stall after school, they will be running a cashless system so have your phones at the ready for payment! This will support their sale and raise more money for Children in Need.

## **Learning Highlights from Each Year Group**

### **Year R**

It was lovely to welcome the children back on Tuesday, it's been a busy but short week! This week, the children have engaged really well in the discussions we have had about technology and the different technology that the children have in their homes. In maths, the children have been learning about repeating patterns. They have learnt that an AB repeating pattern is one where 2 different things repeat. They have all explored making repeating patterns in a variety of ways in the classroom. We began our learning about patterns on a welly walk on Tuesday where we collected a selection of natural autumnal resources from the playground. In phonics this week, the children have learnt the sounds ff, ss, ll and j. They have learnt the tricky words put, pull, full, as.

### **Year 1**

Well done to all the Year 1 children for uploading their home learning online on Thursday when we were shut due to the storm. It was lovely to see so many children engaging with the learning tasks. Thank you to all the parents for their support with this.

This week the children have started to learn more about seasonal changes within our science sessions. They learnt the words 'evergreen' and 'deciduous' to describe different trees. We went on a walk around the school to spot these different trees and observe any changes. The children were thrilled to find many acorns, conkers and leaves. We are also going to be learning about materials and what a material is. Please encourage your child to know the names such as fabric, plastic, glass, metal, wood, leather etc so that they can begin to name these with confidence. The Year 1 children impressed us with their Maths knowledge this week as we started our Maths journey on addition. The children confidently used the part whole model diagram to identify the parts as well as the whole number. They used practical resources to show the parts and whole. We will be moving onto learning fact families of numbers to 10.

As we explained the children have been set some tricky word spellings on Seesaw. The children will have a spelling quiz the following Friday on these words. Please support us with these and if you have trouble accessing Seesaw please talk to your class teacher. Thank you.

### **Year 2**

What a fantastic first week back Year 2 have had! On Tuesday, the children went back in time as they visited Tudor House to launch their 'Medieval Life' topic. The children had time to explore the museum, walk the medieval walls; visiting two different vaults underground, and explored artefacts during a workshop led by the museum staff. They were super historians as they examined the artefacts and identified the jobs of people from the past. We were really impressed with their behaviour and engagement. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents that gave up their time to help; we couldn't do it without your support. On Wednesday, the children enjoyed coming to school dressed up, we were impressed with the range of creative outfits we saw. They revisited their writing learning journey from last half term to apply their learning of accurately punctuated sentences to write a recount of the trip. Year 2 would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Nieto, Tiago and his grandmother for coming in to school to deliver an assembly on the Mexican 'Day of the Dead' holiday. The children all gained so much knowledge about this celebration and enjoyed the range of creative opportunities they had planned. We are really grateful to them for arranging and preparing the resources for the children. Finally, we would like to say thank you for all your support with home learning due to the disruption caused by Storm Ciaran this week.

## Keepers Kitchen!



## Year 2 Day of the Dead!



Kind Regards  
Phillippa Longman

