Moorings Way Infant School

Year R Newsletter-Autumn Term 2

We are at the end of the first half term already! The children have settled in so well. They have made lots of new friends and have been learning all the new routines. It was great to see lots of you at parents evening and share with you how well everyone is doing. Thank you for your ongoing support as we all find our feet and settle into the new school year. With this newsletter you will find a phonics sheet to show you the sounds and phrases the children have been learning in phonics. You will also find a half term homework sheet with some ideas for activities.

Our topic in Autumn 2 will be…. **Who's your Hero?**



We will be learning about real life heroes and all the incredible people who help us every day. We will also be joining Supertato on some of his important missions, making comic strips and designing capes, along with much more!

To introduce our new topic, on **Monday 9th November** we would like to invite the children to come to school dressed as a hero of their choice. This could be a real-life hero such as a doctor, a superhero like Superman or a hero that they have completely made up! We have some spare costumes available to borrow, although children do not need to dress up if they feel uncomfortable doing so.

There are lots of celebrations during next half term, along with focussing on Superheroes, we will also be learning about Bonfire night, Remembrance Day and of course Christmas!

Can you help?

Are you a real-life hero or do you know someone who is? Would you be able to spare some time and come in to talk to the children about your job and what you do? If this is something you could help us with please could you let your child's class teacher know by **Friday 6th November.** We can then plan a time for you to visit.

As part of our Superhero topic we will be designing a new cape for Supertato. To do this we will be testing lots of different materials to find out what would make the best cape! If you have any old/scrap materials that you would be happy to donate to support our creativity we would be extremely grateful!

Winter Weather

As the weather gets colder, we will still be using our outside area. You may want to send your child in with a hat, gloves and scarf. Please can we remind you to label EVERYTHING to make sure nothing gets lost. If possible, we would also like to request that the children have welly boots and a puddle suit that can stay at school. The Year R playground can get quite muddy. The children will need to be able to put them on independently and take them off. We will have coloured boxes that match the children's book bag boxes to store them when they are not being used. Thank you for your support.

Book swaps

The children now bring home a library book on a Friday. They get to visit the library space each week, enjoy stories and choose a book to bring home and share with you. You can then keep the book until the following Friday when the children will need to bring them back to be swapped. At the moment, the children do not have phonic reading book. These will start to come home once the children reach a phonics group called Ditty. Please continue to enjoy all sorts of stories at home and ask the children to point out letter sounds they have learnt. Some have even started to blend the sounds to read words. It's magic!

Home toys

We have had lots of children bringing in toys from home. We appreciate that this first half term has been all new and having a toy for comfort has been a great support. Can we please ask that now the children are more settled, toys stay safe at home. We have had some toys getting lost and broken and do not want this to upset the children further. If we can make it a rule across year R for all we would appreciate this. Thank you for your support.

Date Reminder –

Monday 2nd November - INSET DAY

Tuesday 3rd- Fireworks display at Moorings Way

Monday 9th November – Superhero dress up day

Tuesday 8th December- Children will be watching a Pantomime!

Tuesday 15th December- Year R Nativity 2pm.

Thursday 17th- The children can wear a Christmas jumper and enjoy a Christmas lunch.

Our Curriculum in Autumn 2

Personal, Social, Emotional Development	We will continue to use the Jigsaw learning resource. This half term the focus is **My family and me.** The children will spend time discussing making friends, falling out, bullying and being the best friend we can be.
Communication and Language	We will be introducing our thinking hats to support our discussions around lots of different learning areas.
Physical Development	PE will continue to take place on a Tuesday morning following the Real PE curriculum and BEAM.
Literacy	Literacy will be a mix of all our celebrations this half term. We will read and write about bonfire night, Diwali, Remembrance Day, superheroes and Christmas. Children will also begin to work in Phonics groups suited to their ability. This will mean that some children will begin to bring home a reading book matched to the phonics group they are in. Please do not worry if your child does not bring home a reading book at first. Books are not sent home until they reach a certain group and have started blending sounds to read words. Please continue to share books at home and reading for pleasure. Ask the children to show you the letters they have learnt and look for them in the stories you share.
Mathematics	In maths we will continue to explore numbers up to 5 and what makes that number. We will compare amounts and look at whole numbers and parts of the numbers. We will also spend time exploring shapes.
Understanding the world	We will be exploring magnets. The children will be challenged to find things that magnets stick to and use the power of magnets to make a superhero fly. The children will also be learning the nativity story ready for a very special show!
Expressive Art and Design	In art this half term we will be planning and making superhero capes for Supertato and making Christmas cards and calendars. The children will also become star performers in a Christmas show.

The children have had a lovely start to school. It's important to have some down time, so here is a slightly different type of home learning!

Complete 5 of the 10 challenges just for fun! Mark off the activities you have completed and bring this back to school after the holidays to earn a certificate!

Learn to play a new game. 	Get dressed by myself! Put on my own shoes! Zip up my own coat!	Help make a meal. 	Make something messy 	Help grown-ups with a chore. 
Design a pumpkin. 	Share 3 or more books. 	Complete a puzzle. 	Make a piece of Autumn art. 	Collect conkers, leaves, sticks acorns to bring back to school 

These are the sounds that the children have learnt so far.

Have fun finding them in books and seeing what different words you can make!

