



## **Buttercups class Newsletter**

### **Autumn 2**

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome back after Half-Term, I hope you and the children had a restful and enjoyable week off! As I mentioned to many at parent's evening, the children have settled into life at Duxford Primary School really well and are enjoying their learning. This upcoming term promises to be a busy one!

#### **Tapestry and Wow cards**

Tapestry accounts have been successfully set up for the majority of parents. I have re-sent the activation link to the email addresses that were provided but not activated. The email may go to a junk folder so check there if it appears you have not received the activation email. If you are experiencing any problems with Tapestry or if you would like further relatives to be added, please contact me. To help us gain a better understanding of your child it would be wonderful if you could load photos of your child's achievements at home. We can also use these photos to let the rest of the children in the class see and it is a great opportunity for the children to share experiences together too. These experiences can be anything – e.g a trip to the supermarket, baking, out for a walk!

You could fill in a wow card to document your child's achievements at home if you would prefer. I will read these out with the child and ask them questions. They are then proudly displayed for a term outside the classroom on the Wow board before being added to their learning journey file. These moments could be from their play, family events, interests or sporting activities outside of school. If you require more Wow cards, let me know.

#### **Uniform**

Please could you ensure that all your child's clothing is labelled clearly and keep an eye on this as often the label will wear off in the wash as the year progresses. There are a couple of lost jumpers in the classroom, if you think they belong to you please ask to check them. As the weather becomes colder, please could you ensure your child comes in a warm coat, with hats and gloves if necessary. Please could they also bring a labelled pair of wellingtons, so your child has appropriate footwear when we use the outdoor learning environment and garden if the ground is wet.

#### **Morning routines**

The children are settling well into their morning routines. We would like to encourage the children to become more independent in entering and hanging their belongings on their peg by themselves.

#### **Our learning**

For the first half term we have been focusing on learning routines, meeting new people and settling in. This term we will be beginning to focus more on our Literacy and Maths Learning. We will continue to learn the Phase 2 sounds and begin applying them to reading simple words. We will then be able to apply this to writing, working on letter formation alongside this. In Maths, we will be continuing to focus on numbers to 10, practising counting and exploring ways of representing them and begin to solve some mathematical problems. Similar to the first half term, the children will learn through both free-play and adult led activities.

#### **Home Learning**

The children will begin their Home Learning projects this half term. Home Learning in Reception and KS1 is largely centred on practising reading skills however, we also ask the children to complete one project per half term. It is your choice what the children do for their Home Learning project but generally they are topic based. I have attached a Home Learning Grid with some ideas for you to choose from or if your child has their own idea, then feel free to do something different! In the past children have completed baking projects, art models, taken photos, made a movie, created fact files and drawn pictures. This is an opportunity to create something at home for school and share their learning with you. If there are any issues with Home Learning, please speak to me. Please could your child bring their Home Learning Project during the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

#### **Building a Love of Reading**

##### **Home Reading Books**

The children have been very excited to begin their reading at home. Please try to read with your child at least three times a week and record your observations in the Reading Diary. If you need any further support in supporting your child with their reading, please let me know.

#### **Class Book Bag**

Buttercup class have their own class book bag, containing several books for you to enjoy with your child at home for a week. Each week, we will randomly select a child to take the Book Bag home for a week. Included in the bag, there is also a Book Diary for your child to perhaps record which book they liked the most or what their favourite part was. This can be a drawing, writing or you could write what they say. I will send the book bag home on a Friday so could the bag please be returned the following Friday.



### **'Mystery Reader' and 'Snuggle with a Story' Sessions**

On alternating weeks, we will be holding 'Mystery Reader' sessions and 'Snuggle with a Story' sessions to encourage children to read for pleasure and to make reading fun!

Mystery Reader – I would like to invite a mystery reader into the classroom to read a story (or two) to the children. Mystery Readers can be parents, grandparents, older siblings, family members or friends. Before your visit, please submit three clues about yourself to build the anticipation. You could bring a book from home or borrow one of our books. Remember it's a surprise for the whole class, including your child! I will leave a sign up sheet with Mrs Rigby in the office with dates and times so please ring or come into the office to arrange a session.

Snuggle with a Story – this will be a session at the end of the day for family members to come into the classroom to read with the children and enjoy a story together with a cushion and cup of hot chocolate! It's also an opportunity for you ask me any questions regarding home reading. If you are unable to attend, Miss Brown or myself will be able to read with your child.

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 3pm – Mystery Reader

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2.50 – 3.10pm – Snuggle with a Story

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 3pm – Mystery Reader

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2.50-3.10pm – Snuggle with a Story

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 3pm – Mystery Reader

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2.50-3.10pm – Snuggle with a Story

If you have any queries, questions or concerns please do not hesitate to talk to us.

Kindest regards

Miss Pearson