



Friday 3rd November

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely half term, the children have made a positive return to school and we are looking forward to another fun filled half term!

We have started this half term with a topic called 'My feelings'. To start this off we have explored the story of The Colour Monster in which different feelings are related to different colours. The children then discussed a range of different scenarios and how they would feel in these situations. We will also be covering a number of special days and celebrations including Bonfire night, Remembrance day, Hanukkah and Christmas.

During choosing time, the children have enjoyed expressing the sounds of fireworks using rich vocabulary, paints, and musical instruments. Some of the interesting adjectives whizz-popping around the classrooms were, 'fizz', 'pop', 'sizzle', 'whizz' and 'bang'.

This week in Forest school, the children enjoyed mud painting. Some of the children used the paint to create pictures of spiders.



As you know, your child now has a reading book which matches the sounds we have covered so far this term. We would like to mention the importance of hearing your child read at home. Children need to have regular opportunities to practise their reading skills in order to become confident readers. We understand that children can sometimes be tired when they get home from school but it is important that they read at home regularly, even if it is just a couple of pages each night. Please make sure that when you have heard your child read, you sign their reading record. Aim to re-read the reading book during the course of the week as repetition really helps to deepen their knowledge and understanding. Please also ensure that your child's reading book and reading record are kept in their book bags so that they can be heard at school as well. Many thanks for your support with this.

Just a reminder that this term's Star Challenges are due in by Monday 18th December. We look forward to sharing your child's star challenge with the rest of the class. Information about the Star Challenge can be found in your child's homework folder and on the school website.

Below you will find a list of dates for 'show and tell' this half term.

10th November – Green Ivel

17th November – Yellow Purwell

24th November – Red Pix

4th December– Blue Hiz

Speaking, listening, attention and understanding skills form a large part of the Early Years curriculum so this is a great opportunity for your child to practise these skills. This half term, we would like your child's show and tell to be on the theme of 'my Journey to school'. To support your child with this you could discuss:

- The route they take to school
- How you get to school eg walk, car, bus etc
- What you see along the way
- The noises they hear on the journey

Give your child plenty of opportunities to practise how they will describe the journey to the class. It really helps to encourage them to use sequencing words such as First, then, next etc. It might help if they have some photos, pictures or a map which they could use to help them as they talk about their journey to the class. These can be sent into school on the day or uploaded to Tapestry.

As the weather is now changing, please make sure on Forest School days that your child comes in with a full change of clothes, including a spare pair of shoes and socks. Also, we advise that their outerwear (coat/puddle suit) is fully waterproof and not just splash/shower proof.

Best wishes,

Mrs Webber, Mrs Undrell, Mrs Britton and the Reception Team