



# BISHOPSWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

Bishopswood Infant & Junior Schools  
Barlows Road  
Tadley  
Hampshire  
RG26 3NA

Infant 0118 9812836



Executive Headteacher: Mr G Golding

## Early Years Newsletter

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Dear Parents,

This half term we are learning about different celebrations. The children have enjoyed learning about Bonfire Night and Guy Fawkes this week. They have been talking about the fireworks they have seen and exploring the sounds they made. We have also all enjoyed singing songs around the campfire at school!

Next week we are going to be learning all about the Hindu festival, Diwali. We will be tasting some traditional snacks eaten during Diwali so please let your class teacher know if your child has any allergies we may not already be aware of. We will also be learning about birth and birthdays. We will be talking about when we were born and that we celebrate our birthday once a year. Please could your child bring in a named photograph of themselves as a **baby or toddler on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**. Photos will be returned at a later date.

### Reading

Please make sure you are reading regularly with your child and recording when they read to you in their monkey book. Please see below as an example of comments that could be written in the monkey book. **This should be done at least 3 times a week**. We collect the monkey books on a Friday to check and use this information as part of our whole school reading race competition. Please can all reading books be kept in the book bags, so that we are able to change them with your child when we read with them at school.

### Reading Race

To encourage children to want to read at home, we have a whole school competition called the 'Reading Race'. By increasing the amount of time children read at home they become more confident in their reading, allowing them to decode with more accuracy and read more fluently. This has a massive impact on not only their ability to read independently but also helps to develop their writing; ensuring they can access the wider curriculum e.g. history. The percentage of children who have read at home 3 or more times during the week (Friday evening until Friday morning) is worked out and the winning 3 classes move their car on the display in the hall. The winning class moves 3 spaces, the 2nd class 2 spaces and the 3rd class 1 space. Also, the class which makes the most progress in their effort to read at home will be awarded by moving 2 spaces on the track. At the end of the half term, the winning class is awarded with a non-school uniform day or similar. In addition to this, each child who has read 3 or more times at home during the week is awarded a special reading sticker and congratulated in 'Celebration Assembly'.

### Phonics

Usually at this time of year we would be inviting you in to find out a bit more about how we teach phonics (learning how to read and write) in school and how to support your child at home. Due to COVID-19 we are unable to do this, therefore we will be sharing information with you via email and on our website. This will be sent to you next week, which will include some information for parents, as well as resources to support their learning at home. To accompany this newsletter you will have already received an additional one about phonics reading books, which will be in your child's book bag today.

## Christmas

We are hoping this year to have some more “normality” at Christmas, however at the moment we are unable to confirm our plans. We will keep you updated as soon as we have any more information.

## Outdoor day

This term, as part of our topic we will be having an outdoor day on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November**. Please make sure your child is dressed in appropriate clothing for the day, especially if it is raining. If they have water proof trousers they can bring these in too.

A few reminders

Below are just a few reminders about school rules and routines:

- Our trim trail is available to children during our school day only when the equipment is fully supervised by school staff, so please can you refrain from allowing your child to use it at the beginning or end of the school day.
- A reminder that on PE days your child should be wearing plain black or grey jogging bottoms/ shorts, a white t-shirt and their school jumper. All plain stud earrings should be covered over with medical tape.
- Water bottles should come into school daily and contain water only. They are always available to the children as part of a healthy lifestyle choice.
- As part of our school uniform, we ask that no jewellery comes into school. The children are very physical all day and they might damage themselves or the piece of jewellery. If your child wears earrings, they need to be plain studs and covered over with medical tape on PE days.
- We have many different toys at school for the children to access. Please ensure your child keeps their toys at home to keep them safe.

Thank you for your on-going support and co-operation.

The Early Years Team,

| Date          | Book title and page number   | Parent/Teacher/Pupil Comments  |
|---------------|--|--|
|               |  <p>You did it! You are now a Lilac level reader! Here is what you need to do while reading in this level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can use a book by myself</li> <li>I can find the front and back covers</li> <li>I can turn the pages by myself</li> <li>I can use <u>my</u> finger to point to the pictures</li> <li>I can use the pictures to talk about the story or information</li> <li>I can use the pictures to retell the story in the correct order.</li> <li>I will read my Lilac book at least three times a week and my grown up will write it in my monkey book.</li> </ul> |                                        |
| OCT 16th 2020 |  |  |
| OCT 17th 2020 | At THE MATCH<br>All  | Pointed out the source of the sounds and knew what the sounds should be. Started thinking about how the story would go |
| OCT 19th 2020 | At THE MATCH<br>All  | Thinking more about the story. Who wins the match. What people are thinking or saying. Done Well                       |
| OCT 19th 2020 | The Gruffalo Child<br>All  | Loves listening to this book<br>Talked about <del>the</del> rhyming words.   |

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|---------------|--|---|
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| OCT 16th 2020 | Feed feed the birds  | ██████ told me the story behind the pictures. And he loved the colours in the peacock at the end. D.K   |
| 19/10         | Feed the birds.  | ██████ was very excited to show me his new book and introduce me to the peacock! K.K                    |
| 20/10         | Feed the birds.  | ██████ told me what was happening in each picture. He shows good comprehension and used recording of... |

| Date          | Book title and page number | Parent/Teacher/Pupil Comments  |
|---------------|----------------------------|--|
| 20-10-20      | The Mouse and Elephant     | ██████ told me the story using pictures very well and good sentences spoken too. Well done!                          |
| OCT 20th 2020 | The Mouse + The Elephant   | ██████ told the story, then we went back through it and thought about what the animals <del>the</del> saw/heard/felt |
| OCT 22nd 2020 | ..                         | Expanded on feelings and also what they might have said to each other.<br>Doing really well                          |
| OCT 20th 2020 | ..                         | Read + listened well<br>Also tried clarifying some of the phrases that he has been hearing                           |

Words to learn \_\_\_\_\_ Amazing reading   
 \_\_\_\_\_ cat home!  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Please keep up the good work and  
 \_\_\_\_\_ continue recording too  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Thankyou!

Progress \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

| Date     | Book title and page number | Parent/Teacher/Pupil Comments  |
|----------|----------------------------|--|
| 20-10-20 | The Elves & the Shoemaker  | ██████ enjoyed talking about the pictures. NB  |
| 2/11/20  | The Elves & the shoemaker  | ██████ understood exactly who the shoe maker was and told me "he makes shoes" K.K  |
| 2-11     | Dogs in the Mud!           | great recording of ███████ reading at home<br>It's great! Thankyou. ☺<br>Today he enjoyed all about the dogs. ☺          |
| 5-11     | Dogs in the mud.           | ██████ "read" the book using the pictures to tell the story. He had a good level of understanding of the words he heard. |

Words to learn \_\_\_\_\_

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Progress \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_