

St George Class Newsletter



Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a fantastic half term holidays. As always it has been lovely to see all your pictures and updates on Tapestry. The following is a rough guide of what is happening this half term. If you have any questions, please ask and we will try our best to help.

Mornings

The children have settled into the routines and are keen to find an activity on one of the tables. These activities really are helping them develop their independence as they now know the morning routine and are keen to get to get busy. These activities rotate so every child will complete each one during the week. These activities are planned to reinforce learning from previous weeks and are completed independently which is a great indication of their learning being embedded. In addition to this the children may be asked to come and complete small activities with me or Miss Smurthwaite so it is really important that the children are on time and put their things away quickly.

If children bring in a snack, could you please remind them before they come into school to put it in their drawer so they can get to it easily during the day rather than leaving it in their book bags. Fresh fruit is always available for snack time. The children have really enjoyed 'paying' for their snack (pretend money from school) and this terms focus will be on recognising all the coins we have used throughout the year.

The children are becoming really independent so it would also help if they are encouraged to put their belongings into their drawers to get to easily at playtimes and **please make sure they are named**. Please could you also send in a sun hat to stay in their drawers along with suncream so the children have them ready for the sunny days ahead. We are not able to apply suncream on the children so please make sure suncream is applied before school as there will only be time to put on a top up throughout the day. Children cannot share suncream in school so it is vital that their suncream is named.

We have a blue book in the classroom in the register and letter tray. If there are changes in arrangements for hometime please let us know when you drop your child off and we will write it in the book or please telephone the office. Please remember we must have your permission to release your child into the care of someone other than yourselves (even other family members). If you have forgotten to pass on a message in the morning and haven't remembered to phone school, then we will need to ring to confirm arrangements with you before we let the children go. If it is going to be a regular arrangement where someone else will be picking up it would be a good idea to email the office or speak to Mrs Creasey so we have a record of it which will save you from ringing up every time.

PE

Our PE will continue to be on a **Monday** morning with NUFC and **Friday** so on these days children need to come to school wearing their PE kit. This half term we will be taking our PE outside as much as possible to practise for sports day so please be mindful of this when choosing what clothes to wear on these days.



Wellies

Thank you for sending in a named pair of wellies. Hopefully we will not have to use them as much towards the end of the school year but should we need to these are essential in the damper weather.

Reading and keywords

The children are really enjoying their new books which are linked with their Read Write Phonics group and their coloured book band shared reader. Please make sure these are returned on a **Monday** for a quick turn around on the same day. We share books with Key Stage 1 so it is really important that they all are collected in on a Monday and can be swapped. We have a limited number of each colour of Read Write Inc books so it is important they are all returned each week. Children who are reading Yellow and Orange reading books can change their shared reader throughout the week from the boxes in the classroom. The children have already started to do this and are becoming really independent at changing them. The children are enjoying reading their reading books in school with school staff and our volunteers. It has been lovely to hear them share them so enthusiastically. Remember school is aiming for children to read at home at least 3 times per week so please try and ensure this happens. The children have made great progress already with their reading and recognition of sounds and sight words on the red cards. We have now sent home all the flashcards the children will be learning this year so please keep going through the ones you already have. It is still really important to encourage children to sound out words

which they are unfamiliar with but starting to encourage them to recognise and read the ones they know quickly. The children were assessed at the end of the last half term and have been regrouped according to ability. They will be reassessed once more ready to start in the correct groups for Year 1 towards the end of this term.

It is very important that children write their letters correctly. The Read Write Inc. rhymes really help with this so please can you continue to encourage your children when they are writing that they are using the correct letter formation. It is a lot harder to 'unlearn' any misconceptions so this will continue to be a focus at school on a daily basis as we move towards the end of the school year where the correct formation of letters is essential for a good level of development within the writing framework.

'Drawing Club' is still a huge success and the creativity and imagination from the children is incredible. We will continue to focus on full stops, finger spaces and capital letters when writing sentences as well as ensuring the children are using the correct letter formations and writing on the lines showing the ascenders and descenders clearly above and below the line. The children are very eager to write as much as they can so we are focusing on thinking about what they want to write to keep the sentences short and on topic.

Topics

Over this half term we will be covering the following themes: the seaside and summer. We will link these themes to core story texts which our learning will be based around each week. If the children's interests change, we may make slight changes along the way.

Photos are posted on our EYFS blog on the school's website every Friday so please make sure you visit frequently to see what we have been getting up to. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to let me know and we can arrange to have a chat.



Mrs Whaley and Miss Smurthwaite x