

### Personal, social and emotional development

Over this term we hope the children continue to settle well into the new routine and become increasingly confident and independent learners. They will begin to 'play and learn' with their friends rather than alongside.



### Communication and language

We will be encouraging the children to become confident in their speaking and listening skills. Children will be encouraged to listen to their peers and adults and respond appropriately. We will be working on answering 'how' and 'why' questions especially when talking about our learning.

### Understanding of the world

This term we will be learning about different celebrations and festivals beginning with 'Birthdays', Remembrance Sunday and Diwali. The children will be encouraged to explore the changes in nature with the onset of 'Autumn'.

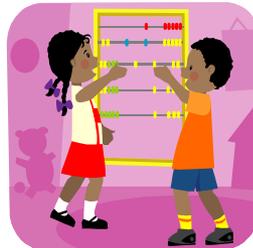
We will explore more about our interests, our families and occupations. You can help us take this learning further by sending in 'moments from home' when you have visited or experienced something significant.

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### Mathematics

Numbers are all around us and this term the children will develop their counting skills and begin to recognise numbers in the environment. They will explore and talk about 2d and 3d shapes while beginning to recognise and name some of them. The children will also learn to add and take away through simple rhymes and practical activities.



### Literacy

The children will learn how to look at books independently and carefully as well as make predictions of what will happen next. We will talk about the author, title, the setting, structure and main characters in stories. We will also learn lots of rhymes and songs and begin to hear and say the initial sounds in words. There will be many opportunities for drawing and writing, including forming the letters in their names correctly. Our two focus stories for the term will be 'Three Little Pigs' and 'Three Billy Goats Gruff'.



### Physical development

Children enjoy being active and there will be many opportunities to climb, run and develop their gross motor skills particularly in our outdoor area. They will also be encouraged to improve their fine motor skills in their play through cutting, mark making, puzzles and construction. During our hall time we will be dancing and playing ring games.



### Expressive arts and design

Children love to sing and dance and we will be doing lots of it in Reception. The children will have opportunities to explore musical instruments and will be supported to develop their imaginations in different role play contexts.

Adults will encourage and support the children in learning new techniques while experimenting with a variety of textures and colours in painting and model making.



Squirrel & Badger Class—  
Year R  
Autumn Term 2018



### Phonics and Reading

We use a synthetic phonics scheme based on 'Read Write Inc.' This details the method sounds should be taught. There are 31 sounds in set 1. Children should be secure in all set 1 sounds before advancing to set 2 vowel sounds. Children are introduced 'Tricky Words' to learn by sight because they have unusual sounds in them. Parents are encouraged to include tricky words in the reading routine or separately. Reading in Reception uses a 'book banded' progressive scheme with additional texts slotted in to provide variety and depth.

### Some of the ways to support your child

Let your child be more independent in the morning; getting dressed, finding their peg, hanging up their coats and putting their things away. Ask them what they have learnt and celebrate their everyday achievements. Don't forget you can also talk about the photos and learning of the week together under the class pages on the school website.

Make sure that they have a sensible bedtime as school is very tiring, and remember that most Reception children will, at times after a long day, be grumpy! 😊

### General

- Please ensure children bring in a water bottle to school every day containing water.
- For safety reasons no jewellery should be worn except stud earrings and hair should be tightly tied up at all times.
- We invite parents/ carers/grandparents or family members to join us over the course of the year to read a story, talk about your job or hobbies perhaps bringing in objects for children to explore and present to the class on particular themes, festivals or events. We would hope that each child would be represented by a significant adult by the end of the year! Please liaise with your class teacher to book in for a Friday afternoon session 14:30-15:00 (1 adult a week)- we would love to hear from you as having visitors to the school really enriches the children's learning and perspectives.

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### Healthy Eating

It is recommended that children eat grapes cut in half - length ways to help avoid potential choking hazards. Please prepare them like this if you give your child grapes in their packed lunch or as a snack.

### Key dates for your diary this term

Individual and family Photos: Fri 5<sup>th</sup> October  
Harvest Festival assembly: Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2:30 pm  
Half Term: Week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> October  
Parent Partnership Meetings: Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> November & Tues 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Inset day - school closed: Fri 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Occasional day - school closed: Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Christmas Nativity performance - Wed 12<sup>th</sup> December 10 am and 2 pm  
Christmas workshop and celebration: Wed 19<sup>th</sup> December 9-10 am  
End of term: Fri 21<sup>st</sup> December 1:30pm