



Friday 13th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful first term we have had in Reception! We have settled into our daily routines amazingly well – a huge "Thank you!" for supporting your child through this important start to school life.

This term we have learnt about our school values and how we treat one another kindly. We have talked about ourselves, our families and where we live. We went on a walk around St Michael's and explored the important landmarks of our village through map making. We have created self portraits through drawing and painting. We thoroughly enjoyed reading the many books from our author focus this term Anthony Browne - it has been a super busy term getting used to school life!

Our maths focus has been to understand our numbers to 5 and beyond along with 2D shapes. Please encourage your child to count at home and identify different numbers that they may see out and about. Next term we will be focusing on our numbers to 10 as well as beginning to problem solve with simple addition and subtraction.

We have spent time practising to write our names and we will continue to keep on practising this important skill! We also have started our phonics – learning a new sound daily! I have attached the set 1 sounds that we have learnt so far along with how we correctly form the letters (there is a phrase which I'm sure your child will tell you!). Please encourage your child to practise writing their name independently along with the sounds that we have learnt in school (we have not introduced letter names yet, just the pure sounds). Next term we will finish learning the set 1 sounds and then focus a great deal on blending to read and write simple CVC words e.g. c-a-t, l-e-g and t-i-p.

Thank you to those that came to the phonics session; for more information please visit the Read Write Inc website: <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/>

Now that we are settled into our routine we want to promote your child's independence by saying goodbye at our classroom door in the morning from next term (with the hopes that by the new year your child will be able to happily say goodbye at our gate in the morning and come into Reception by themselves!). It is important that your child can hang their own coat and bag and prepare themselves ready for their day of learning.

We have a special PE coach next term starting on the first Wednesday so please make sure you have your PE in school. Also may I ask that if you have not yet done so please can you provide your child with an all in one waterproof suit ready for all our outdoor learning next term!

Next term our exciting topic will be 'Let's Celebrate!' where will we be learning about Diwali, Guy Fawkes, how we celebrate our own birthdays and new arrivals in the family along with advent and the story of Christmas. Please come to our very own Early Years Christmas market where you can buy some of the lovely Christmas items that we will have made for you. The date and time for this is 2pm on Thursday 14th December – more information to follow next term! Our Key Stage 1 Nativity will be on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December, we will let you know your child's part closer to the date with the costume that they will need for the show!

We hope you have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing you bright eyed and bushy tailed on Monday 30th October.

Miss Bransby