Reception Newsletter Friday 23rd October 2026

A big thank you to all our families for contributing fruit for the children to explore and bring our story to life!

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you for your continued support in helping us make the first half term in Reception such a calm, happy and settled experience for all our children and families.

We hope you have a wonderful half-term holiday, enjoying some special time together with your children.

Our topic next half term is

'Sparkle and Shine'

We will continue to think about Diwali, and will learn about festivals and celebrations including Fireworks Night, and Christmas.

We will also think about night and the dark as we move through Autumn.

We will learn about nocturnal animals and go for local walks to observe seasonal changes.

WOW day

On the first day back, we will have a WOW Day to introduce our Autumn 2 topic 'Sparkle and Shine'.

The children can wear something sparkly and shiny to school. They can wear anything special to them if they don't have sparkly outfits.

We are going to do lots of fun activities on the day:

- Make magic wands
- Design a sparkly crown
- WOW parade to show off your sparkly outfits

Important dates for your diary

- 2nd November – back to school
- 3rd November - Reception Keep in Touch meeting

Please check whether you have any of our books at home and return them after the holidays

Packed lunch

We have a busy day in Reception and children need a healthy lunch. If your child has a packed lunch, please make sure it is healthy. No chocolate (e.g.) Nutella) or sweets or juice, please. **Also, we are nut-free school.**

All parents can apply for milk online **http://www.coolmilk.com**

All children are entitled to a free school dinner – please look at the menu sent home.

Breakfast Club:

Our breakfast club runs from 7.30am – 8.30am, Monday to Friday, so book your place as soon as possible through the office if you would like your child to attend.

Please look out for a story book and some half term homework in your child's book-bag. Enjoy reading the book with your child over the holiday and return it on Monday when we come back please.

Phonics

When we come back… Children will learn the phonemes – v, w, x, and y

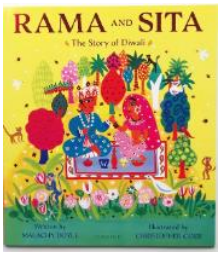
It is important that children learn to blend sounds confidently to read short words. There will be more information on this in the Reading Workshop and Keep in Touch meetings early next half term. Look out for more details when we come back.

For more information; please visit the Little Wandle website parents' section.
https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/

Literacy:

When we come back, we will be learning about Diwali. The book we are going to read is
"The story of Rama and Sita"

- *We will learn about Diwali*
- *Discuss how the people of the Hindu and Sikh faith celebrate Diwali.*



Listen to the story here:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/lets-celebrate-diwaliperformance

Word of the week is: Delicious: having a very pleasant taste or smell. Example: a delicious cake.

Maths
After the half term children will begin learning to name and describe 2D shapes.
Here is a song to help.
2D Shapes Are Everywhere | Shape Song for Kids | Learn Shapes | Jack Hartmann

Achievement Certificates
Briggs: Faiza and Muhammad Raqeeb
Donaldson: Leah and Iosua
Hargreaves: Jannath and Dhruvit

Attendance w/e 23/10/26
Briggs: 82.6%
Donaldson: 88.6%
Hargreaves: 78.5%

Each class will also have a Star of the Week.

- Please can we ask that if your child is in pull-ups that you use this half term holiday to work on more toilet training. Here is a useful website for help **https://eric.org.uk/**The early years' curriculum target states: children should be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs, e.g., brushing teeth, using the toilet, washing and drying their hands thoroughly.
- The same with eating – please help children to put food on the fork and put it in their own mouth.The children need to bring their own named water bottle.
- Fruit is available daily. Please DO NOT send in snacks for your child.

We care about your child's wellbeing and will try to help in any way we can to ensure your child is safe and happy at school. If you have any queries or questions for your child's teacher, please use the class email below. We will aim to respond within 24 hours.

Briggs Class: briggsclass@winterbourne-inf.croydon.sch.uk
Donaldson class : donaldsonclass@winterbourne-inf.croydon.sch.uk
Hargreaves class: hargreavesclass@winterbourne-inf.croydon.sch.uk