

# Foundation Stage Newsletter

## Term Two

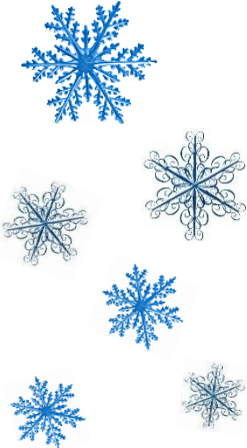
Welcome back to an extremely busy and exciting term at school! We hope you and your families enjoyed the autumn break. Thank you for supporting our hundred square challenge and home journal books – the children are enjoying sharing these with their friends.

Our newsletters aim to provide you with a termly overview of what we will be teaching in school and give you a few tips on how you can reinforce learning at home. Please also remember to check our Foundation Stage noticeboard, located on Cygnet's window, as well as our school website for more news and information.

### Nursery Rhyme Week

Over the last two weeks, we have been enjoying the story "Is There a Dog in this Book?" and have responded to the illustrations of the cats and dogs in the story, making our own drawings and creating speech bubbles. We have also had fun pretending to work in the Vets. We even had Mrs Park's dog come and stay with us! 😊

Our activities will be focused around different nursery rhymes over the next few weeks. We're looking forward to seeing the children's costumes on Friday 24th November!



### Maths

This term, we will be exploring numbers to 10 in many different ways: counting with 1:1 correspondence, saying number names in order forwards and backwards, exploring the concepts of "more" and "less", finding one more and one less, as well as some practical addition and subtraction.

Playing board games at home not only supports children with their turn-taking, but it also helps them develop the skill of counting one object at a time and recognising number patterns on dice. Towards the end of term, we will be inviting you in to play board games with your child in school (info to follow).

### Literacy

Now that we have started learning letter sounds, we will be trying to use these in our writing. This term, we will be looking to write for a purpose, for example labels and lists, using our developing knowledge of phonics to "sound-out" words.

For reading, we will be using vocabulary such as 'illustration', 'author', 'character' and 'title', with a focus on listening to stories with rhyme and repetitive language.

Thank you so much for your support with your child's key word challenge – it is great to see the children recognising more and even noticing them in books! Please look at the school website for some ideas for games to play.

### Phonics

The children are already amazing us with their phonics skills! This term, we will continue learning letter sounds and we will have a focus on blending sounds together to hear words (e.g. when an adult says "d-o-g", the children will blend the sounds to hear the word dog). We will use this skill to learn to read short words by sounding-out.

We will also be continuing to explore rhyming words. Please see our website for phonics resources.

"I Spy" is a great game which helps children develop their listening skills and helps them hear the first sound in words.

[www.ruthmiskin.com/en/read-write-inc-programmes](http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/read-write-inc-programmes)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/earlylearning/nurserysongs>

## General Notices

The children are doing really well with remembering to change their home reader book independently. Please write your child's new book in their reading record when you have read it at home. In addition to their home reader books, the children will have two book changes a week which will include some phonics activities to try at home. Your child will need to bring their yellow reading record in to school every day so that we are able to record the reading we do with them.

Your child will need a raincoat with them every day to ensure they are fully prepared for all weathers. You are welcome to keep one at school, along with a pair of wellies if you wish. We are encouraging all children to change into their shoes and coat independently – please continue to support this at home, as we have a number of children finding it tricky to zip their coat up.

We hope to see your child at the PSA's welcome party on Wednesday 22nd November. Please bring your child's party clothes in a named bag so they can get changed in school.

It was great to see so many parents, grandparents and friends at our phonics session last week, as well as our phonics meeting the previous week. We hope you have found them helpful and that they have provided you with an insight into how we teach early reading skills. We will be holding another parent open afternoon later this term, this time with a number focus, where you can bring along your child's favourite board game to play with them. These sessions will be on the 18th and 19th December at 2:30pm.

A polite reminder that we are a **nut-free school**. We have severe allergies in school, therefore please keep this in mind when organising healthy packed lunches/snacks for your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Dates for your diary:

7.11.17 – Playing with phonics in the classroom (parents welcome!)

17.11.17 – Children in Need dress-up day (spots)

24.11.16 – Dress up as your favourite nursery rhyme character!

22.11.17 – FS party (organised by PSA)

12.12.17 & 13.12.17 – FS Christmas production

18.12.17 & 19.12.17 – Sharing board games in the classroom (parents welcome!) 2:30-3:00pm.

20.12.17 – Christmas jumper day (finish at 2pm)

We have loved hearing about your child's wow moments! Remember to write a WOW for our Wow Window so we can celebrate them in school. We have now upgraded the wow phone to a wow email, so that you are able to send in photos for your wow moments should you wish to at:

[parkwoodfoundationstage@gmail.com](mailto:parkwoodfoundationstage@gmail.com)



Our 100 square is looking great! Thank you for the many numbers that have been sent in already. Feel free to pop along to Goslings classroom after school one day to see the numbers we have collected so far. If you think you can help with any of our missing numbers, we would be very grateful!