



Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Spring Term 1

Help! Help!



Friday 9th January

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope you have had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and have been able to relax and have fun with your families.

Thank You:

We would like to say a big thank you for your support with our Christmas nativity, 'Shine, Star Shine'. The children thoroughly enjoyed performing their songs and they looked fantastic in their sheep costumes. We would also like to say a huge thank you for all the wonderful cards, gifts and Christmas wishes given to us at the end of term. Thank you; we really do appreciate your kindness.

Topic:

The topic this term is called, 'Help! Help!' where we will be focusing upon heroes. We will start the topic thinking about superheroes and then begin to think about everyday heroes who help us in our community day in and day out. We 'launched' our topic with our superhero dress up day and the children had a wonderful time! To 'land' (finish) our topic, we will have another dress up day but this time dressing up as a real-life hero. This will take place on Tuesday 10th February. As always, our topic will be guided by books. We shall begin the topic using 'Supertato' as a stimulus, followed by 'The Hospital Dog' and 'Zog and the Flying Doctors'.

Reading

The children have been amazing in learning their GPCs (Grapheme Phoneme Correspondences) and are definitely ready for some more! This term, your child has brought home their final grapheme chart. This contains fourteen new GPCs and these are all digraphs and trigraphs (three letters making one sound). Please try to practise these every day as this little and often approach is the most effective (and these are the trickiest sounds of the year).

The children are finding the 'Tricky Words' harder to learn so we would really appreciate your support with these. Again, the little and often approach is the most effective and we ask that you practise reading these words daily. You could focus on one or two a day and stick them to your fridge or on to the doors in your house so that your child sees and reads them multiple times a day. At school, we have a tricky word door pass, where the children press the card and say the tricky word each time they walk through the door.

Value of the term poem - Courage

Carrying on when things are difficult
Overcoming fear
Understanding and facing a challenge
Risking being out of your comfort zone
Always believing in God's promises
Going for a goal
Empowered by encouragement



PE

We shall continue to have PE on Thursdays so please send your children to school in PE kit every Thursday. Weather permitting, we also run the Golden Mile every day so please ensure your child wears **trainers** to school **every day** to enable them to run safely.

WOW moments

We love to celebrate the children's achievements at school, from both in and out of school. To help us with this, we have sent each child home with another sheet of wow moments. When your child does something amazing for them, e.g., they learn to swim unaided, sleep in their own bed all night, get dressed independently etc, please add a few details to the wow sheet and send it into school so that we can celebrate along with your child.

Independence

As the children are coming to school dressed in their PE kits now, instead of changing in school, this has reduced their opportunities to dress themselves independently. When the children changed into Nativity costumes, we noticed that many of the children were still looking for support to put on their shoes or take off their jumpers. As these opportunities are reduced at school, please encourage your child to be independent at dressing and undressing, including putting on their shoes and fastening up their coats. The children are amazing at helping each other but it would be wonderful if all children could put on and zip up their own coats.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Acorn Class team