



# Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Autumn Term 2

## Let's Celebrate!



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Dear Parents / Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all parents, carers and your children for a fantastic start to the year and for all of your support. The children have settled into our school and the routines superbly. We are now looking forward to lots more fun this term, with the added excitement of Christmas!

### Topic:

The topic this term is called 'Let's Celebrate!' and we will explore a variety of different festivals and celebrations from here and around the World. The main celebrations we shall be learning about are Diwali, birthdays and Christmas and we will also learn about the sacrifices made by soldiers through our focus on Remembrance Day. Key texts this term include '5 days of Diwali', 'Where the Poppies now grow' and 'Santa Post'.

### Story telling

Throughout the term, we will focus upon oral story telling. Initially, the adults will model storytelling and then the children will have plenty of opportunities to tell their own stories. This is such an important stage for the children and will help them to develop their story language, which will lay the foundations for written stories later on.

### Phonics and reading

We have been really impressed with how quickly the children are picking up the grapheme phoneme correspondences (GPCs), formerly referred to as sounds or phonemes, and we are also so pleased to see the enthusiasm and confidence they demonstrate as they join in our daily phonics sessions. Please do continue to practise these GPCs daily at home with your children as this 'little and often' approach is so effective and really will make the difference with the progress your child will be able to make with early reading and writing. Please don't hesitate to come and speak to one of the EYFS team if you would like some more ideas on how to practise the sounds to help keep your child engaged and motivated.

As the children become more proficient and confident with blending letters for reading words, we shall start sending home a reading book. This will happen as and when your child is ready and this will be at different times for different children. When your child is ready, they will bring home a book that they will have already read in school three times. Please allow them to read this book to you every day for the week and celebrate their reading achievements. These should be celebratory reads!

### Learning Journeys:

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have signed up to the Interactive Learning Diary (ILD). The ILD is a great opportunity for you to see some of the wonderful things your child does in school as well as share some of the things they are doing at home. You are able to like and comment on observations from school as well as post your own pictures from home. Parents have previously asked what sort of things to post; this can include day trips, home learning activities - the list is endless. Anything you or your child wish to share is useful. If you

have not yet signed up or are unsure on how to do this, please email the school office or speak to one of us at the gate.

Winter Clothing:

Please ensure that your child comes to school every day with a named, warm raincoat as we do try to go outside, even if it is a little wet. As the weather gets colder, please also ensure your child has a named hat and gloves.

Value:

Our value this term is Trust. We will show children in practical ways what it means to have trust in others. We will be using the poem below to help us do this.

Taking someone at their word  
Relying on someone to support you  
Unbreakable promises  
Showing that you can be **trustworthy**  
Treasuring good friends



Thank you in advance for your support.

The EYFS team