



Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Autumn Term 1

Look at me!



Friday 13th September

Dear Acorn Class Parents / Carers,

We hope you have all had a fabulous summer and are as excited as we are about our first term together at Lydiard Millicent in Acorn Class! Please find attached a copy of this term's topic web. This gives an outline of the teaching and learning experiences for this term.

Following our baseline assessments, the topic this term is called, 'Look at me!'. Through this topic the children will observe and celebrate all that is special about themselves and their families. Texts used to explore this theme include, 'We're all Wonders' by RJ Palacio, 'Be More Bernard' by Simon Philip and Kate Hindley and 'Once there were Giants' by Martin Waddell. We shall finish this topic by making a special video, 'We are all alike, we are all different',

You will notice there are home learning ideas for each area of learning on the topic web. If you wish to complete these activities, please add them to Seesaw. This is a great opportunity for us to work between home and school as a partnership.

Once the children have settled into school and are ready, we will begin to send home reading books. Initially, these may be books with no words. Please spend time with your child talking about the pictures and encouraging them to tell the story using their own words. Through our phonics teaching, your child will build up their knowledge of the sounds that letters make and develop confidence in blending these sounds into words. Once this skill is secure, we will send home books with words. We encourage you to share the reading book at home with your child for 5 - 10 minutes every day. Please let us know when you read with your child by writing in their reading record. It is important to share the same book with your child on numerous occasions so they can make predictions, develop fluency, learn the tricky words and respond to comprehension questions. Please keep your child's reading book and reading record in their book bag and bring it to school every day. In class, children will read to a member of staff three times a week. We will also send home the phonemes/graphemes (sounds and letters) the children are learning. Please practise these sounds daily at home as this will make a big difference to your child's reading progress. Further information will be given when these are issued.

Our P.E. session will be on a **Thursday**. If your child wears earrings, these will need to be either removed for P.E. days or medical tape can be kept in their bag for your child to cover them up (the children will be responsible for applying and removing the tape). Any children with long hair will also need this tied up on a P.E. day to ensure their safety with equipment. Children need to come to school wearing their PE kits on PE days. Children should come to school wearing trainers every day as we will run the Golden Mile every morning.

Our value this term is Thankfulness
Thinking of good things
Happy memories
All creation praising God
Not taking anything for granted
Keeping focused on the positive
Feeling blessed
Understanding the sacrifices people make
Living joyfully
Not complaining
Expressing gratitude to God
Saying thank you to those who help us
Showing gratefulness by our deeds

As explained during the Parent Induction meeting, it is **vitaly important** that you name **all** of your child's clothes and belongings. It is very upsetting for children if they lose their belongings and so difficult for us to help find them again if they are not named. We understand that it is a time consuming task but urge you to spend the time now rather than face the expense of replacing lost items. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

The children will be provided with a daily piece of fresh fruit or vegetable as part of the government free fruit and vegetable scheme. Please ensure you have registered your child onto Cool Milk if you wish them to receive milk during snack time. This is free until your child's 5th birthday.

We love to celebrate your child's WOW moments both in school and at home. To help us do this we ask you to send in a WOW moment when your child has done something special, tried something new or done something that makes you say WOW! We will send home several 'Wow moments' sheets and ask that you send them in to school whenever appropriate and they will be shared with the class and displayed on our 'WOW board'.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We are available briefly before and after school, and can make an appointment to meet with you if you have a lengthier query.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mrs Baker, Mrs Trinder and Miss Williams
Acorn Class Team