3 Swansfield Park Primary School

Welcome to the first Plum Class newsletter. We're pleased to tell you that the children have really settled very well into their new class, we are enjoying working and playing together. We hope that you find the information detailed in this letter a useful guide to our day in school. If you haven't already done so, please take time looking at the Swansfield Park website, it is a great way of finding out information. More specifically, if you go on to Plum Class in 'class pages' you will find all the learning that has taken place over the past week. This is where we will share photos and captions of all the wonderful things we have been up to on a weekly basis. Please don't hesitate to pop in for a chat if you require any further clarification.

## Read Write Inc

All children in Plum Class began Read Write Inc sessions this week. We begin the exciting journey of learning and using the letter sounds that will unlock the door to reading and writing.

Please support your child as much as you can by asking about the letter sounds they have been learning and practising these at home regularly.

You will receive a RWI pack in the coming week which will detail the letter sounds we have learnt so far. For RWI, Plum children are placed into two smaller groups and your child will be taught by either Miss Whitlow or Mrs Vicky.

## Mathematics

In Reception, mathematics will be taught mainly through practical activities and games with lots of opportunity for taking this learning outdoors.

Key aspects that we will focus on this term are:

- Counting and matching objects to correct numerals.
- Counting backwards from 10.
- Counting on from a number.
- One more than
- Repeating patterns
- Measuring quantities and time


## Learning Journals

The online journal is our way of recording your child's development and journey from Nursery through to the end of their Reception year. It includes photographs and observations of significant moments during their time with us which link to the Early Years Curriculum that we follow.

We are looking forward to sharing these online journals with you and invite you to attend one of the two meetings that we are holding. The first will be on Monday $24^{\text {th }}$ of September at 9:00am and the other will be on Thursday $27^{\text {th }}$ of September at $3: 15 \mathrm{pm}$. In addition to the information given about Learning Journals we will also be giving you an insight into how we teach our phonics programme Read, Write, Inc. Some of you may already be familiar with the programme but it's always good to have an update.

We strongly advise that you take the time to attend one of these sessions.


|  | Mornings | Afternoons |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Monday | Miss Whitlow - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support <br> Mrs Pickard - Classroom Support | Miss Whitlow - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support <br> Mrs Straughan - Classroom Support |
| Tuesday | Miss Whitlow - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support <br> Mrs Pickard - Classroom Support | Miss Whitlow - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support <br> Mrs Straughan - Classroom Support |
| Wednesday | Miss Whitlow - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support <br> Mrs Pickard - Classroom Support | Miss Whitlow - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support <br> Miss Amy Lunn - Classroom Support |
| Thursday | Mrs Grimes - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support <br> Mrs Pickard - Classroom Support | Mrs Grimes - Classroom Teacher <br> Mrs Vicky - Classroom Support |
| Friday | Mrs Straughan - Classroom Support |  |
|  | Mrs Vimes - Classroom Teacher | Mrs Hammond - HLTA <br> Mrs Pickard - Classroom Support |

## Our Daily Structure

During this half term, in everything we do, we will be teaching the essential personal, social and emotional skills needed to keep our classroom a happy and thriving place to spend our days!

## Communication and Language

Discussions about our likes and dislikes, "showing and telling" Autumn treasures and learning harvest rhymes and songs will all be wonderful opportunities for being articulate and learning new vocabulary.

## Creative Work

Now that the children are beginning to adapt to their new environment and we have got to know them a little bit more through the 'All About Me' topic, we will be moving on to exploring Autumn in our creative work - observational paintings, leaf dances and storytelling together with any Autumnal avenues the children wish to explore. Please bring in Autumn treasures that you may find out and about!

## The World

During this half term our main topics will be All About Me, Autumn and Harvest.

Our All About Me topic is a great way to get to know the children, especially their interests, likes and dislikes. Alongside this, we really want the children to enjoy coming to school and for them to be happy whilst they settle in to a new environment with new rules and routines.

Moving on from this, we will be exploring harvest, finding out about crops that are gathered in and learning harvest songs. This will lead nicely into a study of Autumn and we will use our senses to discover changes in the natural world around us.

| Diary Dates | Recycled Materials | Requests and Reminders |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Every Friday - Is P.E Day! We will soon begin our PE session and soit is essential that your child has a named P.E kit in school, at all times. Long hair must be tied back and off the child's face. <br> Every Wednesday - please return your child's letter sound folder to the tray outside the classroom. It will be filled with new sounds and returned home on a Friday. | We regularly provide the children with the opportunity to do junk modelling and collage making. We'd very much appreciate donations of large and small boxes, kitchen roll tubes, yoghurt pots, Heinz ketchup bottles (squeezy tubes only please) and egg cartons so that we can remain stocked up. Please note we can't use toilet roll tubes. | Whilst the classroom door is always open in the morning for you to come in and settle your child, please ensure that you allow him/her to complete their morning challenge with a little bit of independence. Remember that for safety reasons, the classroom door must be shut by 8.45 am . <br> Please ensure you child has their book bag and water bottle with them every day. <br> We encourage you to complete the home learning tasks that are sent home as it will consolidate skills learnt in the classroom. |

Remember the door is always open if you have any questions or worries, catch us in the morning, end of the day or send an email:
bethany.whitlow@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk or anne-marie.grimes@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk

