



Wisdom Begins in Wonder! Socrates

Dear Parents/Carers,

4th November 2021

This half term we will be starting our new topic of 'Celebrations/Winter Festivals' and we will be finding out about the variety of different festivals taking place at this time of year. I am sure that the children have enjoyed celebrating Halloween and this week we will be learning about The Gunpowder Plot, Bonfire Night, and the story of Guy Fawkes. Next week we will celebrate the Hindu festival of light 'Diwali' and then the build up to Christmas will soon be upon us! We will also be following the children's interests as they develop, and our planning is flexible and adaptable to meet their needs. You will find our planning for this half term on the school website.

P.E. will continue to take place on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their P.E. kit and suitable outdoor footwear such as plimsolls or trainers. A pair of jogging trousers or leggings and a sweatshirt is ideal as we do try to get outside as much as possible at this time of year

We were delighted to be able to welcome into school this week well-renowned Cumbrian artist Alex Jakob-Whitworth who inspired the children to think about creating art using objects found in our natural environment. The children had great fun hunting for treasure and created some beautiful pieces in the style of Andy Goldsworthy. As part of the Fellfoot Forward project, Alex will return next Tuesday afternoon (November 9th) when we hope to be making some sculptural hangings and creating elfin doors outside. **Please could your child bring in wellies and a suitable coat NEXT TUESDAY to enable us to make the most of the outdoor area.**

Reading and Homework

The Nursery children will choose a library book to bring home to share with you. Please read through the story with them, talk about the story to develop their understanding of any new vocabulary and they can also draw a picture about it in the book which we provide.

The reception children will be given reading books to share with you at home. Reception children will also be given letter sounds and key words to practise at home to reinforce phonics and reading work taking place in the classroom. They will also choose a library book once a week to share with you at home. Please read other story books at home to your child to develop their understanding of language and to extend their vocabulary and the meaning of new words – and of course to develop their love of books and reading! When your child is ready, they will start to bring home decodable reading books that are matched to the phonics they are learning daily in school. You will find more information about phonics and reading on our school website in Class 1's page. (Phonics and Reading Information for Parents Autumn 2021)

The individual support you give your child at home in reading is both invaluable and essential. Re-reading of some books should be encouraged to help develop familiarity and confidence.

We will continue to post photographs and comments about your child's learning on Tapestry. Please add anything that your child enjoys doing at home as this all contributes to your child's learning journey.

We hope this information is of use to you. If you do have any questions or concerns at any time, please contact us at school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Grayson, Miss Raymode and Julie