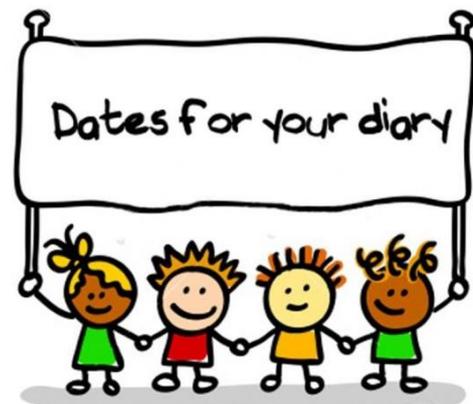


# Acorns Newsletter

## Autumn Term Two

What a wonderful start to Acorns Class we had last half term. All the children have been finding their own feet and settling into Nursery life, and each and every one of them has had their own achievements to celebrate since their first day. From coming in with no tears, to helping other children with putting their coats and hats on, I've been so pleased with the way everyone has adapted to Nursery life and the progress they're already making. I have really enjoyed getting to know the children and I am so excited for what this next half term will bring!

*Mrs Gibson*



### Have you seen our Sway Page?

The Nursery Sway page is an online learning tool which is updated every week with a range of links to resources that are being used in Nursery each week.

This means should your child be absent from Nursery you can still access some of the learning material from home. You can also use it to talk to your child about some of the things they have been doing through the week.

If you're unsure how to access this, please speak to Mrs Gibson or Mrs Turner.

**11/11/20** - Remembrance Day

**13/11/20** - Children in Need Non-Uniform Day - £1 per family

**W/C 16/11/20** - Anti-Bullying Week

**W/C 16/11/20** - Learning about Road Safety in PSHE

**20/11/20** - Odd Socks Day to raise awareness of Anti-Bullying

**W/C 30/11/20** - Advent and Christingle

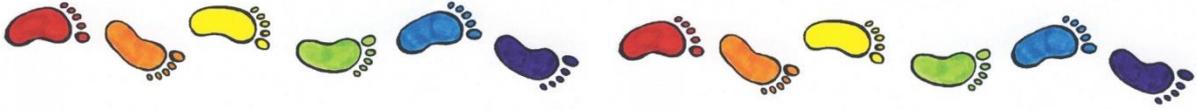
**W/C 14/12/20** - Getting ready to keep ourselves safe over the holidays

**18/12/20** – Christmas Jumper Day



Well done to Kiara, Phoenix, Asil and Archie-Blue who all received Star of the Week last half term.

## Our Learning Journey So Far



Nursery is one big learning journey, and we're keen to encourage children's learning through following their own interests. Here are some of the things we got up to last half term, and how this supported your child's learning.

We're going on a bug hunt! The children found a woodlouse in Nursery, which prompted lots of discussions around minibeasts and we took to the outdoor area to see what we could find. We found worms, beetles, spiders and a dragonfly. The children caught some of the things they found and studied these with magnifying glasses; a great way to develop their understanding of the world.



The children loved making their own bus last term, by taking all of the chairs and lining them up. They used various props for wheels, developing their imagination. Mrs Gibson also made some little tickets, and pretended to be the ticket lady, asking the children for one or two pennies in return for their ticket - a great way to develop children's maths.



Who's afraid of the big bad Wolf? Not the Acorn's children! The children's interest in the Wolf started in the outdoor area, with Mrs Turner pretending to be the big, bad Wolf. From this, we looked at the story the Three Little Pigs. All of the children took part in story telling through puppets and props, and we even built the little pig's houses in the outdoor area. This was a great way to develop children's Literacy and Communication and Language, through repeating familiar phrases, listening to the way we told the story and even having a go at telling the story themselves.

## What's Coming Up this Half Term?

Take a look below at some of the brilliant activities we've got planned to support with our Light and Dark theme this half term.

We plan on doing our very own fireworks using paints and cardboard tubes as part of our Bonfire Night discussions.

What animals come out at night? We'll be learning about Nocturnal animals and what noises they make in the night.

We'll be exploring light, and how light changes through the use of torches and our new light table.

Into the night, to save the day, the PJ masks are on the way! We'll be exploring night-time routines through the help of the masked superheroes, the PJ Masks.

We're looking at Diwali, the festival of lights! As well as the Nativity Story and following the star in the midnight sky.

### LITERACY

The books that we will be exploring this half-term are:

- The Dark Tale
- Daft Bat
- Giraffe's Can't Dance
- Slowly, Slowly Sloth
- Shark in the Park

### Mathematics

This half term we've started to introduce the concept of counting objects and items, following on from reciting numbers in sequence from last half term. The children have started using their 'counting finger' to help them in identifying numbers in a set.

### Phonics

Listening and attention is a huge part of Phase One Phonics in Nursery. As well as our 'What's that sound?' videos, we're also encouraging good listening skills through Movement and Music, by including instructions such as moving fast, slow, being loud or quiet and stop and go.

## Home Learning

Fine Motor Skills development is vital in supporting children develop the physical skills needed to enable them to succeed in writing in Reception and Key Stage One. Here are some examples of how you can encourage the development of this skill at home.



Pegging the washing up

Colander threading



Elastic bands or bobbles  
around a cardboard tube

In Nursery, we've starting to introduce the children to the fun and interactive ways of Dough Disco to support in developing this skill further. You can find Dough Disco songs on YouTube, and all you need is a little ball of play dough to take part!

# HOMEMADE PLAYDOUGH



2 Cups All-Purpose Flour  
2 Cups Water  
1 Cup Salt  
2 Tbs Cooking Oil  
2 Tbs Cream of TarTar  
Drops of food coloring

Mix all ingredients well in stove pot.  
Parents warm/stir over medium heat  
for 1-2 minutes.

Let Playdough cool for 15-20 minutes.  
Use good judgement/supervise your children.

## PLAY & CREATE!

Store in ziplock bags or other reuseable air tight  
containers for later fun.