

Reception News

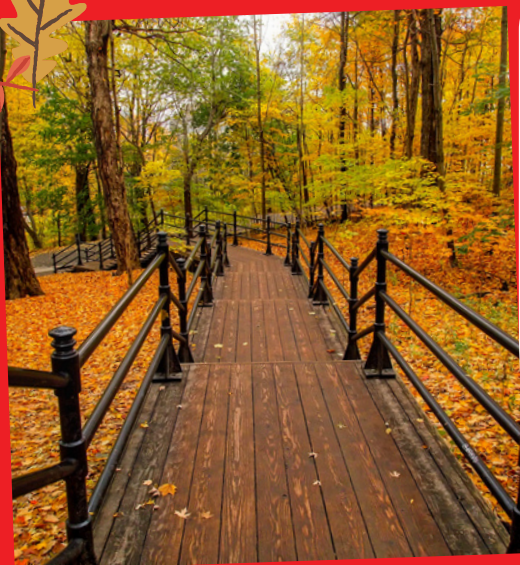
Avondale
Primary School



Autumn 2

WELCOME BACK

We hope you have had a fun-filled bonfire weekend. We are all very impressed with how independent the pupils have become during their first half term at school and your support certainly makes a difference. If you didn't manage to speak to us at parents' evening, please contact us at school so we can share with you how your child has settled. We are looking forward to another fun-filled half term. This half term is always very busy and exciting with the preparations for Christmas. As part of our preparations, the Reception children will be taking part in a Christmas performance titled - The Sleepy Shepherd. More details about this will follow shortly.



Dates for your Diary

Thursday 9th November - Flu vaccines for children who were absent

Tuesday 7th November - Reception Police visit

Wednesday 8th November - Reception Phonic and Reading Workshop for Parents - 3.30-4.15pm / 5.30 - 6.15pm

W/C Monday 27th November - Whole School Assessment Week

Wednesday 29th November - Reception Maths Workshop for Parents - 3.30-4.15pm / 5.30 - 6.15pm

Friday 1st December - Whole School Christmas Craft Day

Saturday 2nd December - Avondale Christmas Fair - 10.00-12.00pm

Monday 18th December - Autumn Reports home to parents/carers

Thursday 21st December - Whole School Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 21st December - Whole School Christmas Lunch Day

Friday 22nd December - School closes for Christmas at 1.30pm

What we are studying this half term

- For the next few weeks we will continue our theme - Autumn Days. We have already followed a route to Sunnyhurst Woods to look for signs of Autumn, read the story Pumpkin Soup, made some delicious soup and developed our drawing skills - observational drawing of leaves. We will continue this topic by learning how people and animals adapt to the changes that occur during Autumn.
- We will learn about special celebrations - first the Hindu festival of Diwali and then the Christian celebration - Christmas.
- Our key texts this half term will be Leaf Trouble, We're Going on a Leaf Hunt, Leaf Man and a non-fiction text All About Autumn.
- This half term the focus for our weekly PSED sessions will be - Celebrating Differences. During this unit the pupils will explore - What I am Good At, I'm Special, I'm Me! Different Families, Houses & Homes, Making Friends.

[Please click on this link for more details.](#)



Next steps in learning this week

Next steps in Language –

Our language focus will be developing understanding of 'first' and 'last' Why is this important? – "First' and 'last' are concepts of time: they refer to something happening before or after something else. They are also significant 'order' concepts when creating sequence in numeracy.

How you can support at home –

- Use toys, puppets and pictures (e.g. animals going into a field, people lining up at the checkout or a bus stop). • With any of these activities, you can encourage the child to use the words 'first' and 'last' by asking 'Where's Jody in the queue?' or 'Where's the horse?' as the animals enter the field, etc. • Link to time (e.g. 'What happened first in the story?' 'What happened last?').

Our 'Rhyme of The Week' is 5 Little Monkeys –

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VTmmodaO2M_U



Next steps in Phonics –

In phonics this week the children will be learning the sounds – ck / e / u, and learning to read the tricky words –the, l, to. Please continue to practise recognising and saying the sounds we have learnt so far, it is really important that pupils can readily recognise and say each sound.

How you can support at home –

- Encourage your child to recognise and read the sounds taught so far – s a t p i n m d o g c k
- Practise blending sounds to read the words
- Practice writing simple words containing these sounds e.g. dog, cat, pig
- Can your child spot any of these sounds and letters in their environment or a story?
- Children make the most progress in phonics and early reading when they practise. We recommend that pupils read at home 5 times each week – this could be either practising their reading book, alphabet sounds, tricky words or reading a story together. Please remember to sign your child's reading diary each time your child has read at home.

Next steps in Literacy –

Our key text this week is the delightful story – Leaf Trouble. We will learn about who is in the story and introduce the word – characters, and learn an illustrator is someone who draws or creates images. We will draw our own illustration for the story and use our phonic skills to write simple words/sentence to match.

This half term our next steps in handwriting will be learning to form all the "ladder letters" correctly. This week our focussed letter is the letter l.

How you can support at home –

- Practise forming letters correctly. Practise these letters in a variety of media e.g. glitter, shaving foam, flour, as well as with pencils.
- Remind your child to always hold their pencil in a tripod grip.

Next steps in Maths –

Our unit this week will focus on counting skills and the 'five-ness of 5' using one hand and the die pattern for 5. Children will continue to engage with activities that underline the purpose of counting – to find out 'how many' objects there are altogether. They will reinforce their understanding of cardinality – that the last number in the count tells us 'how many' things there are altogether in a set of objects – and they will further practise their 1:1 correspondence skill, by counting numbers at the same time as moving or tagging objects.

A key focus this week is deepening their understanding of 5 as a quantity by linking the number itself to the 5 fingers on one hand. The children will also begin to explore different ways to represent numbers to 5. These different representations will help to underline the 'fiveness' of 5 and provide structures that will support later exploration of its composition and its relationships with other numbers.



NEXT STEPS IN KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD –

On Tuesday we will be having an exciting visit from a police officer, who will be talking to the children about their role in our community and how they help us. We will be learning about the festival of Diwali and how this is a special time for Hindus. We will also learn about Remembrance Day and why people wear poppies.

Reception Curriculum Workshops for Parents/Carers

Phonics and early reading are key to children's academic achievements. We want to support you as parents in being able to support your children at home with their phonics work and also with their reading. This week, Mrs Nuttall, our Reading Lead, is hosting two EYFS Phonics and Reading parental sessions on Wednesday 8th November.

- Workshop 1 – 3.30–4.15pm
- Workshop 2 – 5.30 – 6.15pm

Please come along and learn the correct pronunciation for phonics sounds, learn the type of questions to ask your children when they are reading as well as lots of other key tips. It will also be a great opportunity to meet other parents.

These workshop will be held in the Reception unit. Please enter school via the Reception shutter area. Thank you to all those who have signed up to a workshop. If you haven't done so please contact the office to confirm a place.

On Wednesday 29th November we will be holding a Maths Curriculum workshop for parents and carers.

- Workshop 1 – 3.30–4.15pm
- Workshop 2 – 5.30 – 6.15pm

More detail about this workshop will follow shortly.



SHOW AND TELL

Just a reminder that our 'Show and Tell' sessions are on a Monday.

'Show and Tell' is a simple speaking and listening activity that we encourage all children to take part in. Children can bring in an item from home that they would like to show to the group and tell us about. This could be an interesting object, some artwork, a favourite storybook, a souvenir from a trip, an award or maybe a photograph. Please encourage your child to practise what they are going to say at home first. Photos can also be added to our i-Track site for us to share.

Children do not need to bring in an item every week but we would like each child to take part. We do discourage children from bringing in a different toy every week unless they have something specific to share about it.

Please ensure that any items that are precious or irreplaceable are not brought into school, unless they have been discussed with a member of staff first.



Stay and Play Session – Thursday 30th November

On Thursday 30th November, we are delighted to be able to invite all our Reception parents/carers to our first Stay and Play session. It will be lovely to have all the parents in school now that the children are settled and used to school life. The children will most certainly look forward to the opportunity to show off their independence skills in their classroom, as they show you around with confidence and share some of our learning challenges. We cannot wait to welcome you all in. You will be able to opt for either a morning or afternoon session – more details about this session will be sent home next week.

FRIENDLY REMINDER

- Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named, especially any hats, gloves and scarves.
- P.E days this half term will be Friday. Please ensure that your child has their P.E kit in school, and remove any jewellery on this day.



*Have a good week.
The Reception Team*