



12th September 2025

Excalibur Primary School

Term: Autumn 1 Week: Two

Reception Class Newsletter

Phew! We have done our first full week and what a busy week it was! Thank you again for helping things to run seamlessly. Everyone is doing so well. We know that starting school full time is no mean feat, with so many new people and routines to get used to. Any tears on arrival have stopped very quickly. The Classroom is set up so that the children have things to be getting on with when they walk through the door which helps. We had our first Helicopter story sessions, we met Fred the Frog and played some games with him (there's a little video on Seesaw about 'Fred Talk'). We tried to keep in a space as we travelled around the hall in PE. We learnt a poem 'Chop, Chop' and had lots of lovely stories and songs. The children have continued to explore the environment and the resources that we have, as well as making and developing new friendships.

Stars

Today we had a special Reception stars assembly. Every week each class chooses 2 children to be our 'stars of the week'. The stars are celebrated in a weekly assembly and presented with a special certificate explaining why they are a star. They also get a metal star badge to wear for the week. The star badges are returned the next Friday. We will join the rest of the school for their stars assembly later in the school year, for now we will be separate. It's never an easy choice to choose just 2 children.

Super stars



Congratulations to this week's stars

Aria Y and Ernie



Baseline

As part of getting to know your children, Mrs Rogers has been undertaking the government baseline assessment. This will continue next week too. Some information about the assessment was included in your child's welcome pack. However, we have sent it again alongside this newsletter. The assessments are nothing to worry about and there is nothing to prepare. The children come on a 1:1 basis to play some games. They are asked specific questions which they respond to orally or through touching the correct picture on an i-pad. The assessments only last a few minutes. There are 2 assessments one for maths and one for communication and language. In addition to the government baseline we have been assessing the children in all other areas either through our informal conversations and observations or through more specific activities such as cutting along a line or drawing themselves. This allows us to build a picture of your child, find out what their strengths are and highlight areas for development.

Wanted: cardboard tubes

Throughout the year we are always happy to receive cardboard kitchen roll tubes. The tubes always get quickly snapped up in our 'make and do' area, Demand always outstrips supply!

Wanted: flowers/plants/herbs

As you might have seen on Seesaw the children love to use plants, flowers and herbs in our outdoor area. If you have any flowers that are past their best, herbs or plant cuttings we will gladly use them.

Home Story Books

We have loved reading your comments in your child's reading diary. It's great to see so much reading at home. Sharing a story with your child each day is a really brilliant way for you to support your child's language and reading development.

*Have a lovely weekend,
from the EYFS team*

