

Reception Class Newsletter – 5th February 2016

Half term is fast approaching! I can't believe the children are half way through their first year at school. They have achieved so much already and I know they will go on to achieve so much more by the time they move onto year one. They are amazing!



You should all have received a letter on Wednesday from Mrs Houldsworth explaining who will be taking over teaching the class after half term. Mrs Cheadle will be coming into school next week on Monday to spend the day with us and to meet the children.

Lily's mum was our wonderful mystery reader this week. Many thanks for coming in. I am still signing people up and we are now booked up until Easter but if you wish to sign up for after Easter, whether it's your first time or you would like to come in again, you are very welcome.



I just wanted to say another thank you and well done for all the fantastic homework you are doing and for all the comments in the planners. It is brilliant and so lovely to hear about the things you have done and what the children have said. Please keep going with it! Letter (and number) formation is tricky; it takes lots of practice and over learning so please be patient with your child if they are finding it hard and I speak from personal experience with my own boys. Rather than saying no that's not right, praise them for trying and say ok let's try it another way. It can be lots more fun writing letters in things like steam, shaving foam, tomato ketchup, paint etc.

This week we have been doing fantastic pencil rolls and forward rolls in PE and throwing and catching tennis balls, which the children are getting really good at! The children have made their own versions of the bear hunt story we have had alien hunts, unicorn hunts, cat hunts and monster hunts to name but a few.



We have also been busy finishing off our giant birthday cake to celebrate Excalibur's 50th Birthday. Sadly we can't actually eat it as it is made from paper flowers, model magic, boxes, pipe cleaners and paint! The cake is our part of the fantastic art project that the whole school is undertaking with artist Sue Smart. Look out for it displayed around school soon!

On Wednesday we had another brilliant session with Sally Dinnis from Love Music Trust. I am so proud of the way the children behave when she comes in and how fantastic their singing, actions and playing is. She is always very complimentary about the children.



After half term, we are going to make a change to the way we come in to school in the mornings. I am asking that you say goodbye to your child in the morning, **before** they come in through the blue gate, and that you allow the children to come in and organise themselves independently. They are very, very good at the end of the day and get themselves ready to go home without you! We will of course be there to help them. They are so good at knowing our routines; they all know what to do! I know some of you do this already but for those that don't we are asking politely that you support us in this. In a lot of Reception classes children come in on their own after a few days, or from day one, but we have always been happy at Excalibur for you to accompany your child inside in the mornings. Please try and see this as a positive step and not that you are 'not allowed in anymore', just that you are helping prepare your child for the next step and that they are ready to go in on their own.

Please keep sending in cardboard tubes, egg boxes, empty cardboard boxes, lids from plastic bottles and empty yoghurt pots for our 3D modelling.

Look out for a letter about our trip to Ford Green Hall which will be at the second week of March. It should be out next week.

Congratulations to our two stars of the week William and Riley and to Harry and Maisie Lou who sat on the VIP table to eat their lunch today.



Next week we will be thinking about Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday and Valentine's day! Phew! Then I think we will all need our holiday!

Many thanks,

Mrs Rogers, Mrs Newbould and Miss Kirby