Year R Autumn

We are delighted with how well the children have settled into school life at Marlborough. They have shown great enthusiasm in making new friends, exploring their learning environment, and adapting to new routines. As we move into the second half term, we will continue to develop in our early learning goals as well as start our PE lessons. Thank you for your ongoing support; we look forward to seeing the children continue to flourish.

Reading in School



Your child will be bringing home a library book for you to share together. The books will go out on a Thursday and we ask that you bring them back into school on a Wednesday. Please continue to practice the letter sounds with the cards we sent home and look out for word cards and books soon.

What is this topic about?

Our topic this half term is Celebrations, where we will explore personal experiences of events such as Bonfire Night, Diwali, birthdays and Christmas. As the term progresses, we will engage with the children, learn about their interests and find ways to incorporate these into their learning.

The topic of Celebrations is a wonderful way to encourage the children to talk about how you celebrate special occasions at home. Please do upload any pictures of your family taking part in celebrations, such as Bonfire Night or Diwali, onto Tapestry. The children can then share their unique experiences with their teachers and classmates.

This half term, we will also be focusing on developing the children's letter formation. Each letter has a rhyme to help children remember how to form it correctly. Teachers will send home a sound mat to support practice at home, and the rhymes can also be found on the sound cards we have already sent home. It is important that children develop the correct letter formation from the beginning, and practising the rhymes as you write will really help.

Key dates:

Tuesday 17th November – Parents evening appointments 3.30-5.30pm
Wednesday 18th November – Parents evening appointments 3.30-7pm
Wednesday 18th November – School nurse appointments available.
Thursday 3rd December – Nativity rehearsal at church. 9-11am.
Friday 4th December – Nativity play in church 9-11am.
Thursday 10th December – Santa's Grotto 3.30-5.30pm (more details will follow)
Friday 18th December - Christmas jumper and lunch. End of term.

Ways to Help at Home

There are lots of ways to support your child's learning at home. Practise writing their name using the name card sent home, and encourage them to hold their pencil correctly. Practise letter sounds, and when your child is ready, they will bring home green word cards and reading books. Please record home reading in their reading diary at least three times a week. Play board games, practise rolling a dice and counting the dots, count steps and actions, and spot numbers in the environment.

Trips/key messages:

Our first PE lesson will be on **Friday 6th November**. We ask you to **send your children to school in their PE kits**, which they will wear for the entire day. The PE kit consists of a plain white round-neck T-shirt, black shorts or jogging bottoms, trainers, and the school jumper or cardigan

For health and safety reasons, please ensure that **children do not wear jewellery** on these days and have a hair band to tie back long hair. **Please note that wearing PE kits to school is a different arrangement from the rest of the school.**

Key Vocabulary:



Wet and Cold Weather

We love to explore the outdoors in all kinds of weather! We have wellington boots and coats available for outside learning, but please send your child in with their own coat each day for lunchtime play. If you prefer, you can also send in their own wellies. Hats and gloves should be clearly named, as they can easily get mixed up. We are also encouraging children to put on their own coats and gloves independently, any practice at home is a great help!

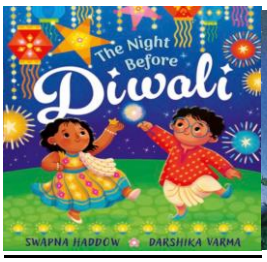
The Coat Flip Trick

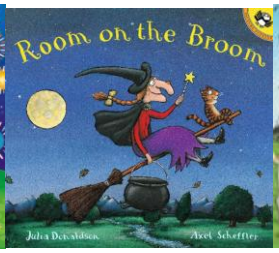
Encourage your child to practise putting on their coat independently using the **flip trick**.



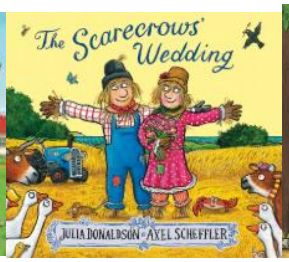
- Lay the coat on the floor with the hood near their feet and the inside facing up
- Ask your child to stand at the hood end, bend down and put their arms into the sleeves
- They can then lift their arms up and flip the coat over their head.

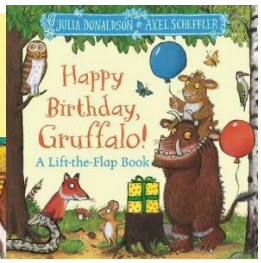
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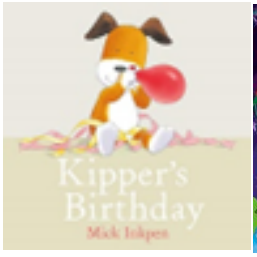














Recommended reads



Online Safety: Preparing Children for a Digital World

Technology is constantly evolving, and so is our approach to teaching online safety! This year, our teaching team has been working hard to review and update our online safety curriculum to ensure it reflects the ever-changing digital world and the needs of our children.

Our curriculum is shaped by Education for a Connected World, a national framework designed to equip children and young people with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate the online world safely, responsibly and confidently.

The framework outlines what children should know and understand at different ages and stages, covering important topics such as online relationships, privacy, managing information and keeping themselves safe.

Want to know more about what your child is learning? Parents and carers can explore the framework to see the online safety knowledge and skills children are encouraged to develop as they grow.

You can read the full document here: Education for a Connected World – UKCIS

