



## Hercules Class End of Autumn Term 2 Newsletter And Spring Term 1 information

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to your second class end of term newsletter! Where has the time gone? We have whizzed from half term to Christmas in a blink of an eye. The children's confidence has grown so much and we are seeing all their unique characters in class through their play and learning. They have worked so hard this term, and been so resilient with everything that has been going on, including Abbeymead sports day, drama workshop, Nativity, and Field and Forest sessions. They have been amazing. They truly deserve a good rest over what I am sure will be a very exciting Christmas break to get them ready for the new term in January.



### **A few things to remember as we start our third term together:**

Field and Forest Fridays: 19 Jan – 26 Jan – 2 Feb. Please wear long sleeves and long trousers - non-school uniform. Remember, if these are not in school already, to please bring welly boots and full waterproofs as we go out in all weather. The format has changed as unfortunately we no longer have the Church Farm site due to building work. We will have four groups – 2 will go to the church off-site and 1 will be doing cooking (linking nature to what we eat and hopefully in the summer, doing a bit of foraging) and 1 will be on-site in our Field and Forest area that we are developing by Phoenix class to be creative outdoors.

PE – just Wednesday afternoons from 10 January – Please wear PE kits to school on these days.

Water bottles, Coats, Welly boots and Full waterproofs - Please ensure your child returns to school with a warm coat, hat, gloves and scarf as the cold weather takes its grip, as well as full waterproofs (one piece or two pieces are fine) and welly boots for outside play – these need to be clearly labelled with your child's name. It is worth noting the door of our classroom is always open – so lots of warm layers for the winter months for inside the classroom is advised as well.

Snack – One piece of fruit is available per day per child to eat when they are hungry.

Classroom Resources - We are always looking for things to cut and make for junk modelling and collage, natural objects such as pine cones and acorns and we have just started our deconstructed roleplay. We are looking for boxes - the larger the better. All would be gratefully received in Hercules class.

We are also looking for some traffic cones to lay out a circuit for the balance bikes in the outside classroom if anyone knows where we could get some from (and don't say the motorway).

Tapestry - Please send in your Christmas family photos first and then new toys for Show and Tell. This is a key part of the curriculum in Early Years not only for developing their communication skills and questioning but also to develop an awareness of difference within families and their community. I will send the timetable out at the beginning of term as a reminder.

Reading books – We read Monday to Friday so please ensure their reading book folder has everything in it and brought to school every day. We expect parents to support their children reading at least four times a week to help them progress well and to achieve their reading certificates each term. We check their reading record every week and will be catching parents who haven't read at home to see if there is any further support needed. Thanks so much.

Library Books – Wednesday is our swap day. Take time each day to share a book with your child and chat using story language - What do you think the story is about? Who are the characters? Where is it set? What's happening in the story? How will he solve that? How do they feel? Can you predict what will happen in the end? What was their favourite bit of the story?

### **Some Important Dates**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan Be a pirate day – dress up as something to do with the sea – navy, pirates, sailors be as inventive as you like around the new topic of ALL AT SEA.**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan Lord's Prayer Experience**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan Same and difference families and homes** – Please bring and send via Tapestry a picture of your family and your house (ideally two photos so we can play who lives in a house like this?) for our PSED lesson on Friday 19<sup>th</sup>

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan Field and Forest**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan Field and Forest**

**Friday 2 Feb Christingle service**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb Internet Safety Day**

Please take a look at the curriculum map for the learning we will be doing this term and the books we will be exploring together.

*Best Wishes from the Hercules Team - Miss Rimmer, Miss Tomlinson Mrs Stables & Mrs Ford.*