



Welcome back to Sunflower and Acorns Class, after our half term break.

**Topic:** Our main topic and themes this term are: "What happens at Night", "What do we celebrate and remember at this time of year" and "Christmas". The children have contributed to our planning and want to learn about Rockets and Space, Night Time and Christmas. Please remember to let your child's key person know about any new achievements or interests they may have and complete a "Wow" slip if your child has accomplished new learning or something special, at home.

A paper copy of our planning is displayed on the office NB . Our weekly plan is displayed on the classroom window along with our Curriculum Map and Newsletter for this Term. **Please note all important dates.** You can also check our school website, Pre School Class Page ,which is updated regularly and includes information and photographs of our provision.

### Information:

- The children are enjoying their new book bags and books can be changed twice a week. Please spend time reading and sharing books at home and include a short comment in your child's reading record. You can find some useful information about the importance of reading on: [oxfordowl.co.uk](http://oxfordowl.co.uk) and [booktrust.org.uk/bathbookbed](http://booktrust.org.uk/bathbookbed)
- Continue to practise taking shoes and socks on and off, to help with our weekly visit to the school hall for PE, on a Wednesday.
- Please **name** your child's belongings - school jumper/coat/lunch box/water bottle. We use the outdoor area every day and in all weathers. Your child will need a warm coat, gloves and a hat, during the Winter months. It would help us enormously if you could practise self-dressing skills with your child at home.
- **£2.00** donation for snack/cooking for this term is now due via Parent Pay. Thank you to the parents who contributed last term.
- Remember to keep us updated with any changes to prescribed medicines/dietary needs/telephone numbers.
- Your need to contact the school office to let school know if your child is absent.

### Important Dates:

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - INSET

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November - Term 2 begins

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November - Parents' Evening

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Songs and Christmas Nativity ( Time TBC)

Week beg 15<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Sunflower & Acorns Christmas Parties - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Last day of term





## **FUN AT HOME IDEAS!**

- Talk about the natural changes that happen at this time of year - In the garden, in the woods, the weather, day and night
- Talk about special family times - A birthday party, a day out, Christmas, Bonfire night
- Make a collection of textured materials and think about words to describe them - smooth, rough, shiny
- Save boxes and containers and have fun junk modelling
- Play games to support vocabulary building. Say a word then think of other words that have the same meaning - big/huge/enormous
- Think about how many words you can say that begin with the "a" sound. Repeat with all letter sounds
- Talk about the order in which things happen - Getting dressed in the morning/going to bed at night/making a sandwich.
- Talk about your journey to and from school
- Make some bird feeders and watch out for the different birds that visit your garden
- Go for a walk in the dark, explore with a torch, look for twinkly stars and the moon
- Go for a listening walk around town and talk about the sounds you hear
- Go for a walk on a windy day, a foggy day, a rainy day, a frosty day.
- Visit a garden centre and look at the Christmas displays.
- Practise putting your coat on and fastening the zip or buttons
- Practise putting on your hat and gloves
- Get yourself dressed in the morning and ready for bed at night and remember to brush your teeth really carefully
- Look for different shapes at home
- Walk down your Street and look at the different buildings and houses. What are the houses built from? What colour is the front door? How many windows can you count? What can you see growing in the front garden?
- Look out for items that have patterns - curtains/wallpaper/wrapping paper/clothes. Talk about the different patterns
- Practise pointing to and counting out- How many apples are there in the fruit bowl? How many little books are on the shelf? How many cars are in the toy box?
- Practise counting to five and making arrangements to five.
- Remember and sing your favourite counting songs and use your fingers for counting and saying the numbers
- Continue to practise saying and singing your favourite Nursery Rhymes
- Begin some mark making activities for Christmas and practise your pencil grip - Make a card for granny or grandad and write your name in it. Write a letter to Father Christmas and draw something you would like him to bring you.
- Have fun cutting and snipping old Christmas cards
- Begin to sing some Christmas Songs!

We are very good at recycling in Sunflower & Acorns Class and are always looking for "bits and bobs". If you get any pretty boxes or cards at Christmas, please bring them in.