

Kindergarten Newsletter

October 2023



Dear Families,

We cannot believe that we have reached the end of our first half term, it has gone by so fast! The children have all settled very well. We are very proud of them and they are a joy to have in kindergarten!

Webpage translator

Should you wish to view our school website in another language. Please click on the globe next to the quick links tab on the home page. This will open a list for you to select your preferred language.



Snacks

Please ensure you provide your child with two snacks, one for the morning and one for the afternoon. These snacks should be either fresh fruits or vegetables. If you provide your child with grapes, please can you cut them in half long ways to ensure that they are not a choking hazard.

Coats and Bags

We are limited for space in our coat and bag area. Please can your child only bring **one bag and coat** with them each day. This also helps the children when looking for their belongings.

Purple Mash

Your child has been issued with and brought home logins to use our online learning tool, Purple Mash. Please take the time to explore this tool with your child. We will also be using it within Kindergarten.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent from Kindergarten for any reason, please could you ensure you notify us via Seesaw or ring the school secretary as soon as possible.

If your child is going to be absent from Kindergarten for an extended period of time during term time, we kindly ask that you complete the leave of absence form via the link on the Kindergarten website.

<https://www.ckis.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=2645&type=pdf>

Our focus for next term

The theme for next term will be **'The dark'**. This will allow us to look at a variety of topics linked to the nights' drawing-in, such as bonfire night, nocturnal animals and space. In line with our principles of following the children's learning and interests, we will constantly review their interests and make plans to reflect this accordingly. As we move into December our focus will move to Christmas!

Key dates

- Parents evening - 14th, 15th and 16th November (face to face)

A link will be sent out shortly for you to express a preferred date and time and I will then send a message out on Seesaw to you privately to confirm your specific date and time.

- Prospective parents' morning for YR places at CKIS - Tuesday 21st November 9am.
Thursday 30th November 9am.
- Prospective parents' evening for YR places at CKIS – Tuesday 21st November 7pm.
Thursday 30th November 7pm.

This link <https://www.ckis.org.uk/admissions> will take you to the school's admission page where you can complete a form to register your interest in attending one of these events.

Key area updates

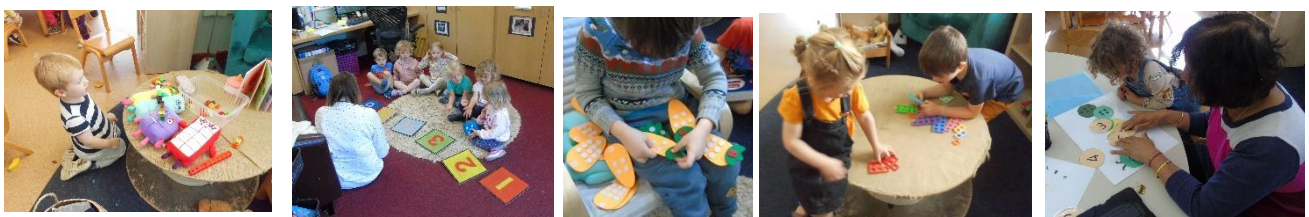
Reading and developing a love of books is very important within Kindergarten and is in line with the school's focus. We have been enjoying daily story sessions and re-telling stories through the use of puppets within kindergarten and around our story tree. We have been using 'The Write Stuff Fantastic's' during these times to talk about *what/how* the characters might be feeling, smelling, noticing, touching etc. Our story suitcase has a new book each week with objects in it to enable the children to re-enact the story. During our library time, we are focusing on understanding that print carries meaning. We hope you and your child are enjoying the Kindergarten Library trolley, we will be updating these books next term.



Phonics and mark making is available daily within Kindergarten through a variety of activities such as painting, water pens, chalking, tracing and physical large floor mark making. We will be using the phonics program 'Teeny Weeny Readers' which links into the school's phonics programme, 'Phonics International'. The children will take part in phonic activities during circle time and within the Kindergarten setting through support from staff and planned resources.



Maths runs throughout our day within Kindergarten from the children taking part in group counting in the forest learning area, to singing songs such as *five current buns*. We also plan in maths opportunities so that the children have access to equipment to explore numbers, sort, compare, talk about capacity and count throughout the day. Our focus this term has been on recognition of numerals. The children have enjoyed using the Numberblock resources in our provision independently to explore and recognise numerals. They have then had focus activity time with their key person to reinforce this learning and check their understanding and progress.



Of course, we want to ensure your child feels safe and secure at Kindergarten, has the confidence to try new things, and are given the opportunity to develop their social skills. We achieve this through a wealth of rich **Personal, Social and Emotional development** learning opportunities. We model positive behaviours and interactions. We have read the book the Colour Monster to help us to explore and begin to understand our own emotions and those of others.



Here are a few pictures from our first term and quotes from the children!



We like going to the library and looking at books!



5 little ducks went swimming one day!

I liked smelling the vegetables!



We love the story tree!



I liked the frog, it jumped!

I made Elsa's castle!



I liked catching the ball in the hall!



I liked digging and finding the carrots!



Finding the rain was fun!

