



The Julia Donaldson Class

Hello and welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely time over the Easter break and the children enjoyed their well needed break. I can't believe it is term 5 already!

Phonics and reading in Foundation

Thank you all those parents who are hearing their child read regularly. I am sure you have noticed the progress they have made since joining Year R in September. **I cannot stress enough the importance of hearing your child read every night. This will help your child meet their end of year goals.** We can see the difference it makes.

During the school week your child reads in a group daily and we also try and listen to them read 1:1 at least twice a week.

Please try to hear your child read for at least ten minutes every night. Talk about the story and ask questions such as: 'What happens when....?'; 'Who are the characters...?'; 'What happens first...?' etc. This will help your child to make real progress. It is important that children understand and can discuss what they are reading.

Please ensure your child brings in their reading book and journals every day to allow us to change books and hear them read. To enable us to assess whether your child needs their book changed please sign, write a comment or tick if they have read the book. If at any point we haven't managed to change your child's book, please catch us at the end of the day and we will change it.

Learning this term....

This term's topic is: Animal Kingdom.

For this we will be learning about pets, farm animals, wild animals, mini-beasts and dinosaurs.

In Maths we will be learning about numbers to 20, addition, subtraction, part/part whole and money.

In Literacy we will continue developing phonics skills and practising writing sentences for different purposes.

For phonics we will reinforce phase 2 and 3 phonics and move onto phase 4 blends, for example str, spl, scr.

Literacy will be linked to the topic. We will be reading *The Gruffalo* and creating text maps to help us learn the story.

In RE we will look at different stories from the Old Testament, including Noah's Ark, Joseph and Abraham.

In PE we will be learning skills for athletics.

For internet safety, we will learn about online safety.

General reminders

- The class will continue to do PE on a Wednesday.
- Your child may bring in a water bottle to keep in class. This can be used throughout the day. Please make sure it is clearly marked with your child's name.
- Milk - If your child has turned 5 he/she is no longer entitled to free milk. If you would like your child to continue have milk, please pay and sign up. www.coolmilk.com
- As all children have settled well in the mornings, please encourage them to come in by themselves to enable them to get ready for Year 1! I understand that some children will take a little longer to adjust to this and that is fine.
- Please remember to wait until your child is out of school grounds to ride bikes/scooters to avoid possible collisions in times of busyness.

Thank you

Mrs Friend and Mrs Jones

