Reception Newsletter

Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

Autumn Term 2

Monday 2nd November 2026
to
Friday 18th December 2026

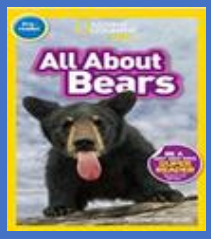
Theme – Beary Busy

We hope you had a lovely half term holiday. The children have settled back in beautifully after the break and are ready and eager to begin their learning again. We are looking forward to this busy and exciting half term celebrating the different festivals and special events.

What will we read this half term?











The first part of this half term the main learning will be based around the text 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. We also look at the seasonal changes and then move onto our favourite time of the year Christmas! The children will learn the Nativity story and one of the Christmas stories we share is 'The Snowflake' by Benji Davies. We will continue to engage the children in various seasonal stories and look at different non-fiction books together.

What will we learn this half term?

Communication and Language

During this half term we will continue to participate in many activities that encourage the children to speak in the now familiar setting. They will listen to and engage in a variety of familiar and new texts including non-fiction books. The focus will be to help the children to understand and use new vocabulary relevant to their learning.
Other areas of focus will be to:

- Maintain attention in new situations.
- Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them.
- Follow instructions with 2 parts in a familiar situation.
- Start a conversation with peers and familiar adults and continue for many turns.
- Develop social phrases

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

As we share together our English text, we will begin to explore different emotions. We will talk about how we may feel at different time of the day. We will discuss that we all have similar emotions and feelings and that people around us can help.

The children will also:

- Beginning to express their feelings and consider the perspectives of others.
- Begin to take turns and share resources.
- Independently choose where they would like to play.
- Continue to build constructive and respectful relationships.

English



Each morning the children will continue the Read Write Inc phonics sessions learning the Set 1 Phonics Sounds. They have all been superstars becoming familiar with the format of the lessons and learning a new sound each day. More information regarding the teaching of phonics sounds can be found on the Reading and Phonics section of the website. A video which demonstrates how each sound is pronounced – the pure sound – can be found on the following link **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yln6PpV1G1I**

Thank you for your support with the home reading process. You will notice that as the children progress in their phonics lessons, they will start to spot some familiar sounds and words in books you share together at home. As the children move through the phonics scheme, we will begin to send home books that the children can read independently.

Maths

In Maths we will be continuing to work on our counting skills, recognising numerals and singing counting songs to help us. This next half term we will be exploring the numbers 1 – 5.
This will be through a range of activities such as recognising numerals, matching the correct number to the correct quantity, subitising 1-5 objects, sorting amounts, number formation, finding one more and one less and putting two numbers together to make any number between 2-5. This will ensure the children are learning strategies and skills that help when dealing with larger numbers.

All this work is explored through the inside and outdoor classroom and with real life resources and practical activities.

Understanding the World

This half term we have many festivals and celebrations to share. These events will be learnt through carpet teaching sessions, focus tasks and continuous provision activities.

Autumn
Bonfire Night
Remembrance Day
Christmas






We will observe autumnal changes and begin to understand the effects on wildlife in the natural environment and look at different terrains and environments.

Expressive Arts and Design



Through the various festivals we will explore mark making and mixing colours when painting. The children will learn how to make different patterns with tools and paint. We will look at the work of the artist Jackson Pollock and create our own work using this particular style. The children will make poppies and as the Christmas season becomes closer, we will be getting ready for the glitter explosion!

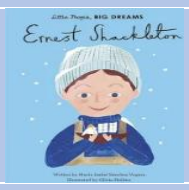
We will continue to sing familiar nursery rhymes and learn new songs to help us retell the Nativity story. Most of the learning during this month is very creative and expressed through arts, crafts and singing.

Physical Development



During this half term we will continue to develop the children's small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. We will be working on using the correct grip of the pencil when writing and ensuring the children use good lower case letter formation when writing their name. The children will be supported, where needed with scissor control any help you can give the children at home with cutting skills will be beneficial for activities in school.
The PE sessions will include playing games where the children must follow a set of instructions.

Little People Big Dreams



This half term we will look at the great explorer Ernest Shackleton and link this work to our English text We're Going on a Bear Hunt.

General Information

Tapestry – Please continue to check your Tapestry account regularly as we often put on quick messages and information / pictures showing current learning. If you have not received a Tapestry registration link or are still experiencing problems receiving posts, please speak to your class teacher.

Lunch time - The children have now wonderfully mastered the lunchtime routine and we are so proud of how they have adapted to this different time of the day. The dinner time staff continue to support the children to cut up their food and encourage them to try new options.

Clothing – A quick remider to check that all items of clothing are named, including hats and gloves. At this time of year the hand written labels can sometimes wash off.

Christmas – 'Tis the Season to be Jolly…. We have many exciting activities planned for the festive season. The EYFS Christmas performance will take place on 9th and 10th December at 9.15am. Further information regarding the performance will be sent nearer the time.

This is an exciting and busy half term in school and we are looking forward to sharing this magical time with your children.
Please do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher if you require any further information or help with any aspects of school life.
Thank you for your continued support.
Kind regards
The Reception Team