



Dear Reception Parents and carers,

We welcome you back and hope that the children have had a good rest over the half term break. We have an exciting half term ahead with the run up to Christmas.



Our topic this half term is '**How do people celebrate around the world?**'. We will begin our learning focusing on bonfire night and the Gunpowder plot, as part of our PSHCE sessions we will talk about how to keep safe around fireworks. We will then explore the Hindu festival of Diwali. Looking at how Hindu's celebrate Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita. Our celebrations continue with our focus text 'Cake' and find out how people celebrate birthdays around the world. As we get approach winter our focus text will be 'Stickman' where we will begin to look at the seasonal changes and our final book is Little Robin's Christmas, looking at hibernation and creating Christmas crafts.



We appreciate your continued support in helping us by working with your child on the phonics and tricky word flash cards and reading. This half term we will send home the second set of **tricky words and phonics sounds**, along with **number cards 1 -20**. It is a Government expectation that by the end of Reception the children will recognise all of the cards. We certainly don't expect the children to work on all of these in one night, maybe alternate one of the sets of flash cards with reading a couple of pages of a reading book (we appreciate that the children are tired after school). It is important to note that all of the cards need to be read by sight, i.e. without prompts. The children will also bring home '**WOW cards**' in their packs. These are for parents to fill in whenever they are 'wowed' or impressed by something that the children have completed at home. We value your input into your child's learning journey and appreciate the contributions that you give.

REMINDERS:

- **PE** day is Friday
- Please **make a comment** in your child's home-school diary when you read with them
- Reading books are changed **by house colour**. Please ensure books are in their bags on their house colour day. **Red House** = Monday, **Orange House** = Tuesday, **Yellow House** = Wednesday, **Green House** = Thursday, **Blue House** = Friday.
- Please practise recognition of sounds, tricky words and numbers

In regard to our annual Nativity performance, plans are still being put in place so we can perform for you but also ensuring we keep everyone safe. More details will be provided in the next few weeks

Any queries please do not hesitate to ask.

Miss Goodison

