

Reception News

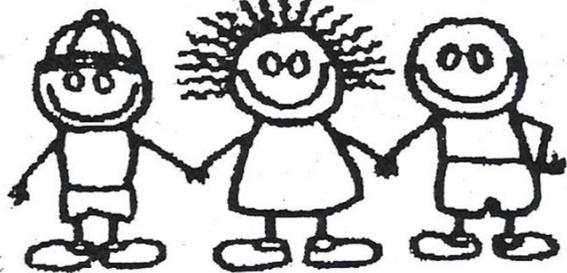
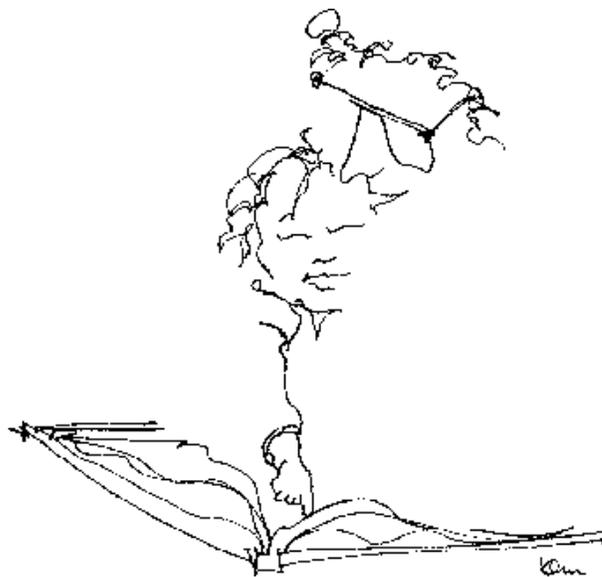
Autumn 2 2017

30th October – 20th December

Parents' and Carers' Reading Afternoon

At Motcombe we are passionate about fostering a love of reading in every child. The importance of children sharing books with parents, snuggling up and enjoying a story or information book together, cannot be overestimated. To support this experience we have introduced a parents' and carers' reading afternoon. This will take place **each Friday, in the classroom at 2.30. (Starting on Friday 17th November)**. Pop down to school half an hour early and the gates will be open and you can come and share a book with your child and some friends. The gates will be open from 2.30-2.35 so please be prompt! Don't worry if you can't come every week – come as and when you are able (although each week would, of course, be lovely!) Mums, dads, grandparents, carers and younger siblings are all very welcome.

What a lovely way to start the weekend!

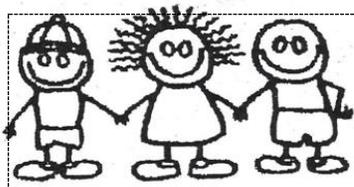


Light and Dark

This term our overarching theme for learning will be light and dark. We will be following the children's lead, so this theme may look quite different in each class. Depending on where the children's interests lie most strongly, we anticipate exploring ideas and concepts such as: things we see in the dark, night time animals, lights, stars; how the dark makes us feel; night-time routines as we get ready for bed and light sources. It may be that one interest - or something else entirely! - overtakes others and this will become a key focus for learning in one class.

At Motcombe we ensure that each reception class is focusing on the same skills, but we are aware that for children to learn and practise these skills most effectively, the contexts need to be those which most interest and motivate the children. So this term, and throughout the year, you may find different 'learning projects' happening in each class. This tailoring of the curriculum makes the learning of key skills so much fun – not only for the children, but also for the teachers and parents as we are surprised at where the theme leads and we are learning along with the children!

We will be starting this term with a special bonfire session which will enhance experiences children may have had over half term or at the start of this term with some children celebrating Halloween and Bonfire Night.



Christmas

This is a busy time of year with lots of special things going on! The children will be working on a nativity play which they will perform to you in the classroom. We will also be having a Christmas party and the whole school has a Christmas lunch together. Please see above for dates for these events and keep an eye out for more information nearer the time and on the school newsletter.

Wish list!

We use lots of recycled, or 'found' resources to support our learning in Reception. There are lots of different items which you possibly may have to spare. Possibly at the back of the shed or waiting to be thrown away? Don't get rid of them! We are real re-users and recyclers at Motcombe and can make good use of things which may no longer be useful to you!

Do you happen to have any...

- Torches
- Old clocks and watches, analogue or digital
- Old padlocks and keys, nuts and bolts
- Empty picture frames (no glass, just the wooden / metal / plastic frame)
- Buttons
- Fabric and wool
- Junk modelling – cardboard boxes, tubes, egg boxes etc

Any donations will be very gratefully received by your child's teacher! Thank you!

Tapestry and Reading

Thank you to everybody who was able to attend the meetings over the last fortnight about Tapestry and reading. If you were unable to attend, please make an appointment to see either your child's teacher or Mrs Moore who will be able to let you know what we talked about.

Dates for the diary:

Class Nativity – Sun Bear, Black Bear

Wednesday 13th December 9.30am

Spectacled Bear, Panda

Thursday 14th December 9.30am

Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 12th December

Christmas Party – Monday 18th December

Coats

Now that the weather is getting colder, please make sure that your child has his or her coat in school, even if they don't need it for the car journey to school! We do plan for the children to learn outside in all weathers and if they do not have their coat in school, they are not able to enjoy all the different experiences we have planned for them. Please also help your child to learn to get dressed and undressed independently if they cannot already do so. It is a great achievement for the children when they are able to put on their coats independently, doing up their own zips and turning their sleeves the right way out before putting their coat on. This also develops fine motor skills, which in turn supports writing.

PE

This term we are having PE on the large climbing apparatus in the hall which is very exciting! Remember to make sure your child has his or her PE kit in school each week – shorts and a t-shirt. Please make sure your child's P.E. kit has their name in! Your child won't need plimsolls until the summer term. If they do not have their PE kit they will not be able to take part in the PE sessions. Please help your children to practise getting dressed and undressed – particularly socks and tights!

Home Challenges

Keep an eye out for the Home Challenges on Friday's newsletter

