



KANGAROO AND KOALA CLASS NEWS

AUTUMN TERM ONE 2018

We are delighted to see how well your children have settled into their classes. They are exploring all areas of our provision and particularly enjoy using our Outside and Field Areas—finding lots of apples and conkers!



We have been using the theme of SUPERHEROES to help the children learn our class rules and routines and thinking about how Superheroes need to work together to get the job done!

For the next few weeks we are going to use the book SUPERTATO by Sue Hendra to help us think about what Superheroes need to eat to keep them healthy and inventing our own exercises! We will be watching out for the Evil Pea who is always up to no good and might try to lead the Superheroes astray!!!



We will also be using the story SUPERTATO to help us explore the similarities and differences between fruit and vegetables. We will use the seasonal changes to help us explore seeds and to start planting in our garden. You may start to see old Welly Boots on the fences which we will be planting up with spring bulbs.



We are hoping to plant our garden with lots of herbs—if you have any to spare (that will survive over winter) we would be very grateful.



Before half term we will be thinking about Everyday Heroes and how they help us. We will be inviting some Everyday Heroes to come and tell us about their jobs, such as our Site Manager, Mr Hancock and Head Teacher, Mrs Myers.



Phonics

You now all have your Phonic Books to help you understand how your child is going to form each letter and the action that goes

with each sound.

REMEMBER that your child will be tired at the end of the day so don't make the activities into a chore. A little and often is often best. It doesn't matter how you explore the sound. You can use the sheets or you can come up with your own games including finding them on your computers and tablets.



We will be collecting the phonic books in on **TUESDAYS** so that we can see any work the children have done and put in the new sheets. We will return them on **WEDNESDAYS**.



READING BOOKS

This week your child will be bringing a LILAC reading book home. These books often have no words. This is to help your child develop story making skills—using the picture cues and expressions/actions of the characters to decide what is happening. Within the next few weeks we will be changing these books but we hope

that you and your child will enjoy the opportunity to make up stories together. Remember that you can always write the stories down for your child and send them into school for us to read with them.



From **MONDAY 8TH OCTOBER** Kangaroo and Koala Classes will be lining up on the playground in the mornings. Both Mrs Parker and Mrs Reed will be on the playground to collect the children at 8.40am.



TAPESTRY

ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL

We are hoping to have TAPESTRY up and running very soon so you will start to receive observations, photographs and videos of your child in action.

TAPESTRY blocks any photographs of other children so it may tell you that it was unable to send you the photo. We normally try and take photographs of just one child or of their work—so hopefully this will not happen very often.



Please remember that we value your voice as parents and carers. Tapestry enables you to take photographs of your child doing amazing things at home and send them to us to add to your child's Learning Journal.



Every day we have Superhero Helpers who do extra special jobs such as collecting the register. These helpers are chosen by pulling lollipop sticks with their names on—this makes it easy to check that everyone has had a turn.

As soon as the whole class has had a turn we pop the lollipop sticks back and start again. When this happens we will start to send home our class toys.

Kangaroos have Mike and Mabel. Koalas have Milly and Max.

The toys will come with a bag which may contain a book to share at bedtime or a game to play. We do not want to give you any extra work—but would love you to send in photographs via TAPESTRY. We encourage the children to talk about their Class Toy experiences.



Some children are struggling with the amount they are carrying into school and finding it very difficult to collect it all at the end of the day, especially as they have started to wear their coats. It is also tricky for them to fit everything onto their coat pegs.

For the moment it would be helpful if the children could just have their book bags, water bottles and lunch boxes (if having a packed lunch).



Please remember to label EVERYTHING. There are over 50 children using all our areas and at the moment they are leaving their jumpers everywhere (although we are constantly reminding them to pop them in their trays).

We have been putting our welly boots on in the mornings when the grass is wet and have had difficulty matching shoes to their owners—please can you make sure shoes are labelled too.

Names have been washing off of water bottles. Permanent Marker pens do not seem to be successful. If you have sticky labels that go in clothes—maybe these could go on the water bottles too to make it easier for your child to quickly locate their bottles.

Please feel free to come and see us if you have any concerns or worries about your child. We also love to hear exciting things they have done at home too—so please share good news too.

Yours

Mrs Nikki Parker and Mrs Amy Reed