



### Highlights from last term ...



Reception thoroughly enjoyed their outing to the Town Library, visit from John the Potter, Christmas Craft Afternoon and our Nativity Production.

Dear parents

Welcome back after the Christmas holiday. I hope you had a great break and the children have all returned with smiling faces, eager to be at school! We had a fantastic first term. There were so many highlights, including our visit from 'John the Potter' during our Diwali week. Also our visit to the Library and of course our superstars in Reception who performed in our Nativity productions. Thank you to all Parents / Grandparents who came to our Christmas Craft Morning. It certainly got us into the Christmas spirit! The children had a lovely Christmas party that was made very special with the arrival of Father Christmas in our Grotto. We hope the children have enjoyed their presents and have now settled down to some regular routines.

### Our Learning



As you are aware we plan for your children through chosen topics initiated by child's interests and although we have a topic chosen by the teacher at the beginning of each half term, e.g. at the moment it is winter and the Polar Regions, the remainder of the half term, planning is based upon children's interests. We want to plan activities that they will enjoy learning about. Keep a look out in the classroom window what our topic is so that you can support your child at home.

We have very exciting news and a great way to continually improve parental engagement! You may be aware that Nursery and Reception teachers have been using Tapestry Learning Journeys as one method to record your child's progress. Next half term, we are putting them online, so that you can access your individual child's learning journey and see observations, photos and videos of your child's learning. Please look out for your invitation to come into school to learn all about it.

Miss Allford, one of our Reception teachers is now a fully qualified Forest School Leader. During the academic year, your child will participate in Forest School activities. This is such a fun way of children learning outdoors. Please look at our website; [www.leominsterprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.leominsterprimaryschool.co.uk) to find out more information.

Please remember that every Friday your child will take home their target book. There will be a weekly activity for your child to complete ready to bring back to school the following Wednesday. Please remember to support your child with their reading at home regularly. We consider reading to be of great importance and the key to all other aspects of learning as it impacts on everything a child does. We encourage your child to read at least three times a week at home. Rewards are given to children who achieve this. The phonics homework / games also support reading, so please keep up the great work you do with your child at home.

## Organisation

The children are coping really well with organising their belongings in school. It would be really helpful if you could regularly check all your child's clothing / lunchbox / book bag is clearly named. It is the only way that we can know who it belongs to. The children spend time learning outside too and have wonderful activities prepared for them. Please ensure your child is always dressed appropriately for all weather situations. Hats and gloves this time of year are advised!

Please ensure your child has their PE bag and wellington boots in school for the whole half term.

Any forms or letters should be put in their book bags and we check their bags daily. Please could you encourage at home your child to get dressed / undressed independently. This will help your child a lot in school.

## Reminders

### Jewellery

Please can we remind you that jewellery should not be worn in school. Earrings are allowed **but** only stud earrings. Hooped or dangling earrings are **not** allowed and unfortunately if children wear these, they will not be permitted to participate in PE lessons. This is due to Health and Safety reasons.

### Session Times

Our doors open at 8:45 am so that our school day starts promptly at 8.50am. School finishes at 3.15pm. We would like to remind you of the importance of attendance and punctuality and ask that you make every effort to bring your child to school every day and collect them on time. If you are late in the morning you will need to go to the front desk at Reception where the admin staff will see you. Remember though that your child will be marked as late! Please telephone the school in the morning if your child is going to be absent from school.

## Meeting with your Teacher

If you need to talk to the class teacher, they are available at the beginning and end of each day. Sometimes they may not be able to talk as they have other commitments, but you can always make an appointment.

## Dates for your Diary

Dates	Events
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception eye tests
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Hobgoblin Theatre visit – The Greatest Fairy tale of all
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Internet safety workshop for parents
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	World Book day
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> / Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Pupil enrichment – Author visit from Cat Weatherill
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents come along to our Easter Bonnet Parade in the hall at 2.30pm
Date to be confirmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Parental workshop – How to support your child with phonics</li></ul>

Yours sincerely  
Mrs H Lynch (Deputy Head)

