



# Swans Newsletter

Class Teacher: Ms Andrews

Teaching Assistants: Miss Jones and Mrs Parton-Harris

**Our Early Year's Vision is for all children to be happy, confident, independent, inquisitive and resilient learners.**

## Phonics

This week we started our phonics learning beginning with s, a, t. Children were encouraged to say the phoneme (sound) to match the grapheme (letter). We use the 'Jolly Phonics' songs to help us learn the sounds and the 'Read, Write, inc' mnemonics to help us with our letter formation. We will be learning 3 sounds a week and sending home a phonics homework book which will have the sounds we learnt that week in it. Please practise these sounds with your child each day This will help your child build up their phonic knowledge enabling them to put their skills into practise during reading and writing activities.

## Learning Journal Workshop

Thank you to the parents that attended the Learning Journal Workshop. For those unable to attend I will briefly chat to you at the play, stay and chat sessions so you are able to receive your child's electronic learning journal.

## Play, Stay & Chat sessions

These sessions are for parents to come along and talk to me about their child and how they have settled into school. They then have the opportunity to play with their child and join in an activity. Each chat lasts approximately 15mins. You're welcome to stay and play for as long as you're able. Sessions will be Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October. Please sign up for a time on the sign up sheet on the door from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## Please Remember...

**Waterproofs and wellington boots for Muddy Monday-** some children are still missing items.

**PE kit for Monday morning** – children are encouraged to dress and undress themselves so please make sure they are wearing uniform and shoes that they can easily put on and take off by themselves. Laced shoes should only be worn if children can do them up by themselves.

**Items of clothing including coats, gloves, hats, scarves and shoes should be named! It's surprising how many go missing when we are getting changed!**

The door opens at **8:50am** and is shut at **9am**. Please arrive on time to allow your child time to follow the morning routine and feel settled and organised for the day ahead.

The Swans class blog will be updated every week so don't forget to take a look to find out what your children have been up to during the week.

**...Don't Forget**

**This week in the Foundation Stage we would like your child to be a**  
**EXPLOROSAURUS**

**Finding out and exploring;**

- I show curiosity about objects, events and people.
- I am showing particular interest.
- I engage in open ended activities.
- I use my senses to explore the world around me.

**Send me a Selfie Homework**

Send me a selfie! You can email me the photo straight from your phone or you can print the selfie yourself and hand it in!

**My email address is [chatter@bellsfrm.bham.sch.uk](mailto:chatter@bellsfrm.bham.sch.uk)**

**The homework is to be in by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October.**

**This week the Selfie Homework is 'I have this as a pet...'**

Take a picture of your child with your pet if you have one. If you don't have a real pet be creative, it could be a pet rock, toy or other item etc. Children are expected to talk about their selfie homework photo so please talk with your child about the selfie that is taken so they are able to talk

**Dates for your calendar**

**Play Stay & chats** – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October. Please sign up.

**Toys party** – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October. More info to follow.

**Last day of Term** – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October

**How you can help your child at home**

- Please play games with your children like snap, dominoes, bingo, pairs etc as this helps them build up good cooperation skills and some number skills like recognising numbers on a dice without counting them. This is called subitising.
- Please share books together and read them stories, this helps build up vocabulary and will help with their reading once we start sending reading books home.
- Practice writing their names, holding the pencil correctly using a tripod grip and correct letter formation.
- Practice getting dressed and undressed including buttons, zips and laces.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**This half term in the Foundation Stage we are learning all about ourselves. Next week our focus is 'Pets'**



**Enjoying our Learning ...**

**... Aiming for Excellence**