



Ducklings Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

Tuesday 5th November 2019

Dear Duckling Parents,

Welcome back after half term. It was lovely to meet with you all before we broke up and to have caught up on where your child is and what we will be working on over this half term. I understand that many of you will have seen the Ofsted report and Mr Hawley and I are very happy to discuss any questions that might have arisen as a result.

Please be reassured that many things are already in place in Early Years at Debden and we look forward to demonstrating to you all what we have to offer. This half term we are looking at Fireworks Night, Diwali, family customs and routines and Christmas. We will be very busy investigating, exploring, playing, creating and finding things out as we look at **celebrations**.

We have set up our role play area as a deep dark forest where the children can pretend to go camping and investigate how to make their own den or tent. The children have all embraced their Forest School experiences and we have gone with their fascinations to give them an indoor experience of exploring light and dark which we will be investigating further in our Understanding of the World sessions. The children will also have many opportunities to mark make and write notices and lists and captions to put up in their dens.

The Duckling children have flourished at Show and Tell and this half term we are encouraging them to come in with things that they find in their family traditions and custom; what celebrations do you have at home? We would love your child to share these with our class, photographs, artefacts and books are very welcome. We will continue to choose two children to bring the Show and Tell bag home with them each week and would be delighted if you were to help them to choose something related to our topic of Celebrations to put in it. Sometimes it helps to add a note so I can support your child in talking about their object. Also talking through what they might like to say at home is advisable, just to prepare them, it really helps!

We are working on ball skills in P.E. and look forward to exploring many different objects to enhance our throwing, catching, rolling and kicking skills. We will also be doing lots of work on our fine and gross motor skills with the ride-ons outside, which need parking back in their numbered spots and our weekly finger gym table where the children are being challenged to use their fine motor skills to complete intricate finger activities. Some of these may come home over this half term.

We will be looking at counting and numbers, adding and subtracting, patterns and length and height, as well as looking at language relating to time and money in our shape, space and measures area of mathematics. Although the weather is changing, we will be accessing our outdoor space as much as possible to enhance all areas of learning and to engage your child in their areas of interest.



Thank you for all your lovely posts on Tapestry, please continue to visit your child's journal to see what we get up to this half term at www.tapestryjournal.com/ . It was wonderful to hear at parents evening how many of our Duckling Class are enjoying Mathletics! This online resource is paid for by our wonderful FODS team and is available at www.mathletics.com . Your child's login details are stuck in their reading records.

The daily reading you do with your child is immensely beneficial to their continued learning and development and we greatly appreciate the effort you put in at home, it really does help! If you have any questions regarding helping your child to read at home, please do ask, or make a comment in your child's reading record.

If you have any questions about Duckling Class please do not hesitate to ask, or email our amazing admin team, Mrs Arundell and Mrs Dale, they always pass your emails on to me.

Kind regards,

Mrs Stoye