

Sunbeams Newsletter 4



FORTNIGHT COMMENCING 3RD NOVEMBER 25

Latest News

Night & Light: We have made it to the end of a very busy half term and we are all ready for a well earned rest!! Our new topic next term is light, we will be thinking about night and day, light and dark. We began this week by looking at Diwali the Hindu festival of light. Cherry's mum and uncle were kind enough to come on Wednesday afternoon to share some of their traditions with us. We made little Diya lamps, dressed up in colourful clothes and tried a rice dessert.



Welcome Miss Jude!

We're delighted to welcome Miss Jude to our nursery team as she begins her Level 3 apprenticeship in Early Years Education. Miss Jude brings great enthusiasm and a passion for working with young children, and we're excited to support her on her learning journey. Please join us in giving her a warm welcome!

How You Can Join In

Foundations for Phonics

Please take the time to read the attached PDF 'Foundations for Phonics' and prepare your child at home for formal phonics teaching by carrying out some of the activities detailed in the leaflet whilst out and about in your day to day life. You might like to post your observations on Tapestry to encourage a class conversation.

Development Matters '23 Literacy

'Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can: spot and suggest rhymes, count or clap syllables in a word, recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother.' 3 to 4 years

'Join in with songs and rhymes, copying sounds, rhythms, tunes and tempo.' 0- 3 years

Important Dates

Mon 3rd Oct - Children return to school

Monday 1st December INSET Day - School Closed

Friday 19th December 2023 - Last day of term - Children finish at 1pm

Christmas Holidays!!

Children back on the **5th January 2026**

Fortnightly Phonics

S & A

What phoneme (sound) do these make? Can you hear these phonemes in someone's name you know?

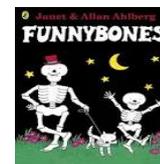
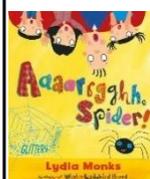
MATHS OF THE WEEK

Shape space and measure 1

Explore and build with shapes

Pattern 1

Explore repeats



Books and Rhymes

Arrh Spider by Lydia Monks

Funny Bones by Janet & Allen Ahlberg

Incy Wincy Spider

Dem bones (skeleton dance)

Messages

Little Wandle Phonics: This term we launch our new phonics program in Nursery. The Nursery years are the best time to lay the foundations for future reading. By spending time talking and focusing on the sounds of our language, we can help young children get ready for formal phonics teaching in Reception. We will introduce a new phoneme (sound) a week starting with S this week and then A the following week. The children will participate in group activities that encourage listening, playing with language, clapping out syllables and blending sounds. Please see attached leaflet explaining more about this and how you can support at home.

Where to find information.

Please use our website to find out key dates, including term times and INSET days

<https://www.stepgateschool.co.uk>

Who to contact:

To report absence, late pick up or collection information or other urgent information.) office@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk

To contact the teacher for non-urgent information:

Miss Dyos (Nursery Teacher & Nursery SENDco)

missdyos@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk