Redfield Educate Together

Dear Panda and Hippo Class children, parents, and carers,

We hope you had a restful half term; the children were ready for a break! We're very excited to welcome them back for a second term. There are lots of exciting activities and events taking place this term in the run up to the Christmas break.

**Important dates**

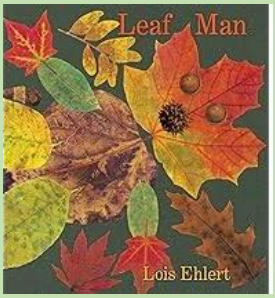
**Winter Fair–** 4th December 3.30pm
**Nativity–** 14th December 9.30 am and 16th December 2.30 pm
**End of term-** 18th December. School closes at 1.30 pm

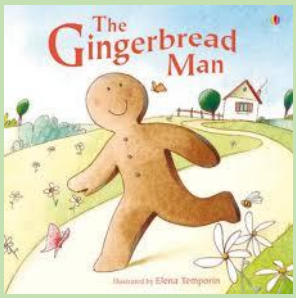
**Learning this term**

Our key question this term is **"What do people celebrate?"** We will look into different celebrations such as Halloween, Diwali, or Christmas, as well as birthdays. We will also learn about the seasons, with a bigger emphasis in autumn and what we can observe in the world around us. More details can be found in the topic web.

If you have a special celebration in your family that you would like to share with the children, please let me know, and we will arrange a time for you to visit the class.

We will be looking at a range of books over the term including:




(Please see our topic web on the school website for more information).

**Things to bring in each day in Reception**

Please ensure that your child brings the following to school every day:

- **School book bag**, containing reading book, reading record and phonics sounds to practice with your child
- A **named water bottle** (water only, not squash or fizzy drinks)
- Named **waterproof coat.**
- Named **wellies**
- It would also be useful if you could provide a **spare set of clothes** (including underwear) in case of any accidents, in a plastic bag, which can be stored safely in the classroom.

*If your child requires any **regular medication, or has an inhaler or epi-pen**, this needs to be passed to the school office, who will ask you to complete a medical form and to provide us with more detail about this, including a care plan where necessary

**PE**

Hippo PE days are Mondays and Panda PE days are Wednesdays. Please, ensure children come to school on those days wearing clothing and suitable footwear.

**Adults in the class**

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hippo class | | | | |
| Laura<br><br>Alice | Hannah S<br><br>Alice | Hannah P am<br>Laura pm<br><br>Alice | Laura<br><br>Alice | Laura<br><br>Alice |
| Panda class | | | | |
| Sara<br><br>Becks | Sara<br><br>Becks | Gemma W<br><br>Becks | Sara<br><br>Becks | Sara<br><br>Becks |

**Reading**

It has been fantastic to see that the children are beginning to read at home with their adults or siblings. Reading at home can have a huge effect on children's progress, as well as encouraging them to read for pleasure. Please record it in your child's reading record, this can simply be a tick.

At school, children are reading their books on a 1:1 with an adult. Please, make sure that your child brings in the book bag with the book in every day to school. Unfortunately, we won't be able to swap the book if you don't bring in the previous one.

We are so proud of their progress! I am sure it must feel exciting to hear them read!

**Traveling Hippo and Panda**

Our class teddies are Pickle, the Panda and Henry, the Hippo. They will be sent home along with a book for you to write in and/or add photos! This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to share what they did over the weekend. We kindly ask that you return them by the following Wednesday. We understand that printing photos may not be feasible, so feel free to upload them to ClassDojo, and we can include them in the book. We chose this activity as a fun way to help children build confidence in speaking and listening to others. Additionally, it provides them with a chance to practice their writing, reading, phonics, and drawing skills.

**What to wear**

As you are aware, we are a non-uniformed school. Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear for their learning. We will of course make sure your child is comfortable and will offer a change of clothes if they are completely drenched from measuring water or making mud pies!




**Communication**

- Class Dojo is the easiest way to contact us. We aim to reply to messages within 2 working days.
- **Please don't use Class Dojo for emergency messages as we cannot check them while teaching or in meetings. Continue to call the office for emergency messages.**
- We are happy to catch up for an informal chat at pick up times and we can arrange a meeting for longer conversations.
- We will send out all school messages through Class Dojo, so please let us know as soon as possible if you are having trouble accessing your account. We will also update Class Dojo with news about our learning in class and photos of the children's work.

**Lunch**

A gentle reminder to please book your child's lunch on Arbor at least 24 hours in advance if you would like them to have a hot meal. Unfortunately, only the sandwich option can be ordered on the day.

If you have any questions or need support with the booking process, please let us know—we are happy to help.

We hope this letter contains useful information for you; please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns, or if there is something specific to your child that you feel we should know.

Let's have a wonderful first term in school!!

Sara, Laura, Becks and Alice