

## Class RC Newsletter September 2015



Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a great summer and feel refreshed and ready to face your child's first term at Repton Primary School. It has been great to have the children in school and we are really looking forward to working with them.

We thought we would let you know some of our routines to prepare you for the rest of the year:

- ❖ Our PE days are Monday and Thursday, however it will be easier if your child's PE kit stays in school as we may need it on another occasion. Please make sure all of your child's PE kit is labelled. Your child needs pumps for indoor PE and trainers for outdoor PE. They cannot do outdoor PE in pumps.
- ❖ Can we please ask that you label ALL of your child's school jumpers and/or cardigans.
- ❖ It would be great if your child could have a labelled pair of wellington boots which can be left at school. Outdoor learning is a crucial aspect of the Early Years curriculum and we like to get outside as often as possible- in all weathers!
- ❖ Our class teddy, Jofli, is keen to visit lots of places. Please let us know if you are planning to go on holiday so your child can take him with them. We would welcome you in afterwards to chat to us about where Jofli has been.
- ❖ We have a second class teddy, Sam, who will be coming to stay with you for a weekend at some point throughout the school year. We really value and like to develop strong home school links. Sam is an excellent way to do this as your child will bring him home, he can spend the weekend with you and then your child will complete a page in his diary to show what he has done with you. We can then look at Sam's diary in school so that your child can share their weekend with him with the rest of the class.
- ❖ It is really important that your child brings a named drinks bottle to school every day containing water, no squash please. We encourage them to drink throughout the day to aid their concentration. Please ensure your child takes their water bottle home at the end of every day to be emptied and refilled.
- ❖ The children will be receiving reading books within the next few weeks. We will send out another letter nearer the time with information relating to how you can support your child with their reading.

### Phonics:

We will begin our sound work in week 3 after we have carried out initial assessments. We will focus on a different sound each day, learning 4 new sounds each week and recapping them on a Friday. Your child will bring home a sound book, which we will stick each new sound into, so that you are aware of what we are focusing on and can support your child appropriately. It would be great if you can support your child in practising the sound, both verbally and writing it in their sound book. They will receive a sticker for each time

they have practised writing the sound. We would also like the children to bring in an object or toy that starts with one of the sounds we are learning. We will be holding a phonics information evening to help you understand how we teach phonics at school. Please see the separate letter regarding this and return the slip as appropriate.

### **Maths:**

This half term will also focus on basic number recognition and counting. Please could you support your child with this at home, through things such as counting rhymes and songs and writing/recognising numbers.

### **Topics:**

Our first topic this half term is *Ourselves*. This will include looking at our bodies and how we have changed since we were young. We will also look at babies and how we can look after them. If you have a young baby and are willing to come in to chat to the children please let us know - we would be very grateful! Our topic will also cover personal appearance and we will be creating self portraits. We will also be talking about our family and friends so that we can really get to know the children and give them chance to talk about people who are special to them. Our next topic will be *People Who Help Us*. If you have a job that fits in with this, for example a vet or doctor, please let us know as we would love you to come in and share your experiences.

### **Dates for you diary:**

- European Day- 24<sup>th</sup> September. Our focus this year is Bulgaria. More details to follow.
- Photographs- 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Any pre-school and younger siblings are welcome for photographs at 8.45am. Your child will have an individual photograph too.
- Grandparent's Day - 7<sup>th</sup> October- Grandparents can come into school for the morning and stay for lunch. More details to follow.

We have taken 'first day at school' photos of your child today which we intend to print for you to keep as a memory of this special day. The photos will also soon appear on the school web site for you to see.

Please remember to inform us immediately of any changes in your personal details, for example your telephone numbers, address and/or child's medical information with doctor's notes needed for allergies.

We hope this information has been useful, but please feel free to pop in after school and have a chat if there is anything else you would like to discuss. We are really looking forward to getting to know you and your children.