



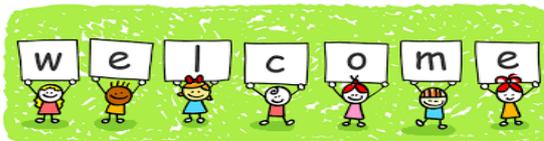
**South Gosforth First School**  
**EYFS Half Termly News**



**Autumn Term 1 September 2021**

**Welcome to South Gosforth First School!**

We have had a wonderful first week together and we are so proud of the children and the way that they have settled and begun to get used to our daily routines. We are looking forward to having all of the children full time together this week and are very excited to be part of your child's first year at South Gosforth First School.



**Phonics**

From this week, we will be beginning our whole class daily Phonics sessions. This year we are following a new phonics scheme called "Little Wandle". We will start learning the Phase 2 sounds this week. As soon as the children have learnt the first two sounds, we begin learning how to blend them together to make words. The sessions will last 10 minutes to start with and will increase in length throughout the year. Each session will provide lots of opportunities for the children to read words and then move onto writing words.

At the end of each week, we will send home the sounds that we have learnt that week so that the children can practise them at home.



**Reading**

We will begin to send reading books home in a few weeks. The first books that the children will have are wordless books. These books help to develop the children's prediction and comprehension skills through discussing the pictures and telling their own story. The children will have a Reading Diary with a guide inside for how you can support your child with reading at home.

As part of our phonics scheme "Little Wandle", the children all read in a group three times a week in school. The first time of reading is to decode the text, the second is to develop fluency and the third is to develop comprehension skills.

This book will then be sent home as an e-book after the three sessions in school. The aim of this book is to provide further consolidation and practice which is vitally important to help to develop children's fluency when reading.

A further phonic book from our school selection will also be sent home. This book will align with the phonic phase that your child is working at and will enable your child to apply their phonic skills using sounds that they have recently learnt. Each child will also choose a library book that is read for enjoyment and an adult will share with them. This can be any book chosen from the school library.

All reading books and library books will be changed on a **Friday**, so please ensure that your child has their books and reading diary in their bag every Friday.



## Maths

We have a whole class maths session each day in the afternoon. This half term we will be singing number rhymes and songs and will be representing and comparing numbers to 5.

We investigate different ways to represent each number practically with a variety of equipment and also learn how to form each number.

We also practise lots of counting and ordering of numbers.



## P.E.



We will have PE every **Wednesday**. The children will need to come to school dressed in their PE kits every Wednesday starting from this week (15<sup>th</sup> September). They will need to wear their PE T-shirt, school jumper or cardigan, shorts/dark tracksuit bottoms and trainers. Weather permitting, we will aim to have our PE sessions outside. We will send home any PE bags that have been brought into school before Wednesday and they can then be kept at home.

## Thank You!

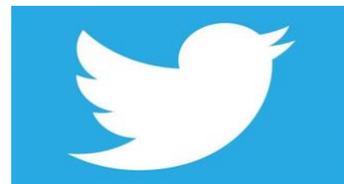
A huge thank you to everyone for sending in your child's "All About Me" booklets. We are going to enjoy sharing these together from this week.

## Tapestry

Many thanks to those of you who have returned your Tapestry forms. We still have a few outstanding forms so please could you give it to your child's class teacher if you have not yet returned it.

We are aiming to have all of the accounts set up by the end of the week and so will return your child's form with the password on in their bags once these are completed. We are really looking forward to being able to share observations from school with you and it is lovely for us to be able to see some of the fantastic things that the children enjoy outside of school.

We do also post weekly activities and information on our school Twitter page, @SouthGosforthFS, and our Facebook page, so look out for any updates on there.



## Upcoming dates for your diary:

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October - EYFS Curriculum Information Evening

**Session 1: 5.30pm - 6.30pm (Puffin Class)**

**Session 2: 6.30pm - 7.30pm (Robin Class)**

We will be holding short workshops to introduce to you how we teach Phonics, Reading and Maths in school and provide information for how you can support your child at home.

Many thanks for all of your support so far this year. We are really looking forward to a wonderful year working with you and your children.



The Early Years Team