

# Reception Newsletter

January 2016

## Happy New Year!!

A big thank you from all of the Reception Team for all of the thoughtful cards and gifts. We hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas and we wish you all a Happy New Year.

## Learning Focus



This half term our Learning Focus will be Favourite Stories. We are starting with *The Gruffalo*. For the first two weeks we will be exploring the story using role play and puppets and creating their own Gruffalo character. They will have the opportunity to build houses for mice and use their sounds to label a Gruffalo, as well as Gruffalo addition. Our second book will be *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. The children will be searching the school environment to see if we have any bears hiding! We will also be having a sensory morning where we will be exploring lots of different textures and objects describing how they feel and the noises that they make. In Mathematics we will be revisiting subtraction and looking at patterns. Our Third book this half term will be *Handa's Surprise*. If your child has a favourite book that they would like to share then they are welcome to bring it in. Please make sure that it is named.



## Reading and Letters and Sounds

We have been really pleased with how the children are picking up the sounds of the letters that they have been learning in class. We really appreciate the support with this from home and can see how short bursts of practice make a really big difference. Lots of the children know the sounds really well now but find the letter names a little more tricky and also forget what the letter actually looks like.



Extra help with this from home would be really beneficial. If you have any questions about this please ask your child's teacher.

## Baptism and Weddings

Over the next few weeks we will be learning about Baptisms and Weddings. We would love to share some different experiences of these celebrations with the children. If you have any artefacts that they could bring in to share we would be very grateful. We will return them as soon as your child has shown them. The artefacts could be from their own or someone else's celebration.

Children in Reception will also be finding out about celebrations on a visit to St John's and St Peter's Parish Church in Ladywood. More details of this will follow shortly.



## PE

During the Spring Term PE days will be: Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning. Children will continue to have Hannah on Tuesdays and will now have Chris on a Wednesday.



We would really appreciate any donations of boy and girls underwear including socks and tights that would be suitable to use as spare clothes for Reception.

Thank you, from the Reception Team