Baslow St. Anne's C.of.E Primary School
Life in all its fullness
Growing healthy minds and hearts together
Respect…Kindness…Diversity

Welcome to EYFS (Tigers)







Twinkle Sparkle!

Dear EYFS Parents,
Congratulations and huge thanks for all your support with your children's first half term in school, we hope you have had a restful week away from the routine of school. This is your second parent pamphlet which will give you our new topic overview and also provides some important reminders for this next term.

We hope you are ready for a very exciting half term leading up to Christmas. The children settled well in their first half term and it really feels like they have been with us forever. They were all very tired after such a busy first half term and this may well continue with the excitement of the build up to Christmas – but they will begin to get more stamina and adjust.

Our topic this half term is called 'Twinkle Sparkle' and is a great way to explore the many different festivals and celebrations that are celebrated by ourselves and others. We will be looking at the celebrations we know and sharing our experiences and finding out how this differs and is the same to other people's experiences. We will also be exploring celebrations that are new to us and finding out what happens with these.

We will continue to help your children settle into school and as always we are absolutely committed to working with parents and carers to ensure your children continue on their happy and productive journey of school life. As we always say, remember we are very happy to answer any questions and are here to listen to any queries you have **PLEASE** just pop in after school and ask me anything you want.

Thank you in advance for all your help, we look forward to continuing the happy and productive start to school life you and your child have started on.

Play, Learn and Grow... Together!

Mrs Whitfield and the Tiger Team



Some Important Reminders for the Autumn Term



Start of the day: - Tiger's door opens at 8.40am. Please bring your child into the classroom and help them to put away their water bottle, book bag and coat. Then encourage them to look for their name card which will be on one of the activity tables. Help them to engage with whatever the task is on their table and then leave them with a smile on your face! It really does help them if you are confident about leaving them. Any issues we will be there to help and reassure you both. If you have an urgent query please have a quick word with either myself, Miss Pettett or Mrs Beardshaw. Any lengthier /non-urgent enquiries can be emailed to me at tigers@st-annescofe.derbyshire.sch.uk .

End of the day: - 3.15pm Please come down to Tiger's gate where we will let the children out one at a time to their known adult. If your child is going home with anyone different please do inform us in the morning or if it is going to be a long-standing arrangement (e.g. 623 (after school club/ Grandparent) let us know so we can make a note. If you have a quick query please do ask at drop off or pick up, if it is a longer query please contact me by email.

Uniform and coats: - As with everything they bring to school it should be NAMED. Please ensure children bring a suitable warm waterproof coat to school every day, even if the weather appears warm and sunny. Derbyshire weather is unpredictable!

PE bag: bring to school and leave on peg, we return at the end of a half term for washing and resizing! Named bag to contain red t-shirt, black shorts and a set of spare school uniform (including pants and socks) in case of accidents. Thank you.

Book Bags: Please do check your child's book bag regularly as we sometimes put information in there. **Please help your child to keep their Home/School diary and plastic wallet** (with sound cards and an ideas key ring) **in their book bag and bring the book bag to school every day**. We use their Home/School diaries as one of our forms of communicating with you, so please check their diary daily (just in case!). The book bag will go in the green box at the door.

Reading: - As explained at our Reading Meetings in October your child's progress with their reading is very individual and we will chat to you individually as they progress.

Open Door: This will continue every Monday and Wednesday this term so please do pop in and share your child's work with them. You are welcome to come to one or both days. If you can't make these days just ask me and we can sort a different day.

Show and Tell: This is on a Tuesday and is a lovely opportunity for your child to practice their speaking and listening skills. Your child is very welcome to bring in something to share from home if they wish, once your child brings it into school it goes in a box and it only comes out for show and tell to keep it safe. You are welcome to email/ class dojo me a photo to share instead. From this half term we will introduce your children to our home teddy tiger puppets and journals and I will put a letter explaining this in your child's book bag. The puppets go home on a Tuesday and are to be returned the following Tuesday. Thank you.

Maths'/Reading Meetings: Monday 9th November – 6pm or Wednesday 11th November 2.30pm– please do come to one of these meetings we will be explaining how we approach maths and more about reading in EYFS and give you ideas on how you can help your child in these areas, as always there will be opportunities to answer any questions you may have.

THANK YOU for your support – it makes a huge difference ☺



This terms topic is "Twinkle Sparkle" where we explore festivals and celebrations. We will be learning about our own cultures and traditions and be introduced to those celebrated in other cultures.

The following will give you a flavour of what is to come for your child this term. Many other learning opportunities will be taking place – do ask if you have any questions.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will spend time settling the children back into the school routine after having a week off. We will encourage the children to show independence in activities in the classroom by selecting and using the resources available to them in Tigers and knowing how to tidy up after themselves! We will discuss our likes and dislikes and respecting other children's ideas even if they differ from our own. We will continue working on building relationships in the classroom and how to work together as a team. We will continue to help the children in learning about self-regulation and putting this into practise.

Communication and Language

All children will be encouraged to use their speaking and listening skills to talk about the topics we are covering and prior experiences they might have e.g. How do they celebrate their birthday? How does their family celebrate Christmas? We will practise taking turns to speak and to listen to each other. We will listen to stories and answer questions about them.

Physical Development

We have already had some practise getting dressed and undressed for PE but we will try and do this at a quicker pace this half term! We continue to develop our large motor skills through using balls, beanbags, hoops, scooters, balance bikes and the trim trail. The children will all take part in a Balance Bike session with an outside provider. We are also going to exploring team games with our parachute. We will continue with our dough disco sessions alongside physical literacy – all aimed at further developing their core strength and from this their fine motor control. We will have many opportunities to begin to develop our cutting, sticking, drawing and making skills through many topic and seasonal related crafts. We will continue to work on our lunchtime table manners, using our cutlery and talking quietly to our friends and have opportunities to discuss our healthy eating and self- care.

Literacy

We will be focussing on reading and writing activities based around our new topic. This will include writing labels for Autumn and firework pictures, writing our own Christmas cards and lists. We will encourage the children to see themselves as writers – using letters in their writing and trying to use the sounds they know. We will work on our pencil grip and control and beginning to form letters. We will continue with our daily phonics lessons and routines with the children learning letter sounds and word building, using segmenting and blending skills. The children will bring new sounds home and we really appreciate your support in helping them practise these at home including trying to blend simple words with the sounds they know. We will also be using a range of texts (fiction and nonfiction) linked to this topic to stimulate discussions and questions, as well as for the enjoyment!

Maths

We will be doing lots of different activities in maths – including counting forwards and back, learning about 2D shapes and their properties, creating repeating patterns. Singing songs to help us learn number order and recognising numbers which are familiar from our birthdays as well as starting to recognise other numbers. We will use lots of practical resources whilst learning including becoming familiar with numicon. We hope you are able to attend one of our two maths meetings for EYFS parents.

Understanding the World

We will continue to be introduced to some of the ICT equipment in Tigers, use appropriate programs on the yotos and learn how to use the CD player and Interactive Whiteboard. We will look at different celebrations and talk about significant events which happen in our lives as well as exploring different festivals and celebrations from other cultures. We will access our outdoor area to create pretend bonfires and large firework pictures using chalk. We will start the term with a 'Welly Walk' in Baslow where we will experience first-hand the wonders of Autumn, the children will collect further Autumn things to go with their own collections from home and we will use these throughout the curriculum. We will be learning enterprise skills through helping raise money for Children in Need with Leopards. We will be learning about how Christians celebrate Christmas and why it is such an important event. We will also learn about Diwali and who celebrates it and how this is celebrated.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be creating Autumn inspired art including painting, printing, drawing and collage, as well as creating firework pictures. We will make Diwali inspired crafts. We will be making a variety of crafts using both adult led and child initiated ideas including all our Christmas crafts – a calendar, card, gift and class advent calendar. We will be helping create decorations for our school tree at the Bakewell Tree Festival held at Bakewell Parish Church. We will be busy learning songs and then take part in the Year 2 Nativity with all the EYFS and Year 1 which will be held at St Anne's church, (Save the date: - Tuesday 8th or Wednesday 9th December about 2.15pm – further details will come out to you). We will end the term with lots of exciting Christmas events, including taking part in the Christmas church service, Christmas lunch and having a party with Leopards with lots of traditional games.



Top 10 activities for EYFS to do at home in the Autumn Term



1. Encourage your child to dress and undress themselves, include zips, buttons – encourage that independence.
2. Talk and listen – have a conversation with your child without distractions, introduce them to new words – explain what they mean. See our leaflet on 'Talking to your child about school' for ideas on how to get them to talk about their day.
3. Reading – carry on reading to your child and sharing picture books, talk about what is happening in the pictures, what might happen next. Help them to learn the sounds they will bring home and start to blend these into simple words. Each child is an individual and learns at their own pace, we will talk to you about the next stage in their reading as they reach it.
4. Maths should be learnt in a practical manner e.g. Counting the stairs to bed, matching socks, recognising numbers on car plates, buses etc.
5. Play games that encourage turn taking e.g. guess who, snap or any board games (also great for maths and language skills – e.g. snakes and ladder)
6. Use technology some great apps to aid learning e.g. comic life, twinkl phonics, beebot, sand write, magnetic letters
7. Encourage writing – a shopping list or a card, value their attempts – having a go and being able to tell you what it says is the most important thing at present. Don't worry about spelling!
8. If they want to write – encourage correct pencil grip (please ask if you're not sure) and encourage correct letter formation but make it fun – practice in sand, shaving foam, cream, flour etc.
9. Talk about the world around them – encourage questions from them, go for a walk just for fun!
10. Remember school can be very tiring!! Make sure your child gets enough sleep, keep those bedtime and morning time routines going and don't overdo the weekly nightlife! Children who have plenty of rest, downtime and good routines are more likely to have productive and happy days at school.

POSITIVE PRAISE – ENCOURAGEMENT – GROWTH MINDSET – RESILIENCE – PERSERVERANCE

Attendance and Punctuality

Please ensure your child is on-time for school every day, doors open at 8.40am. Good attendance is also important and has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time off unless absolutely necessary.