

# Murphy Class Newsletter



Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely, relaxing half-term break. The children have been eager to tell us all about the things they have done over the holidays and how they have celebrated both Halloween and Bonfire Night. This is such a busy half term, especially with the lead up to Christmas, and there are lots of exciting things going on. This half term we will be exploring different celebrations, including Diwali and Christmas. This week, we have learnt about Remembrance Day and have had provocations set up in provision to explore this special day - including creating some 'transient art' poppies. Also coming up this half-term, we have a visit from a fire engine in a couple of weeks as well as our very much anticipated trip to the theatre in December!

## Dates for the Diary!

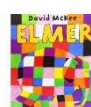
- **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** - Parent's Evening. This is an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into Reception and their progress and attainment so far. You should have already received a link through Parent Mail to sign up for a 10-minute appointment. Please see the office staff if you have been unable to make an appointment online.
  - **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** - Children in Need
- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day. Children can wear Christmas jumpers with their uniform for a £1 donation for Save the Children.
- **(Date Change) Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December (2pm - 3.15pm)** - Winter-Themed Singing & Stay and Play. Children will perform some songs and parents will have the opportunity to participate in some Winter/Christmas themed crafts and activities.
  - **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Party Day
  - **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** - Break up for Christmas Holidays

## Favourite 5

Each half term, we will read 5 key texts. This half term, our 'Favourite 5' books are:



**The Tiger Who Came to Tea**  
**What's in the Witches Kitchen?**



**Elmer**  
**All Are Welcome**  
**Lost and Found**

By reading these 5 stories regularly, children are exposed to lots of new vocabulary. Our 'Grandma Fantastic' collects all of the new vocabulary that we have learnt from each story. We revisit this new vocabulary often, to support children to absorb the language and explore it in a wider context.

Reminder!

## Reminders

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We play outside in **all weathers**. As the colder weather draws closer, please ensure that your child has appropriate **named** clothing (waterproof coat, hats, scarves, gloves etc.), as well as a bag of **named** spare clothes (including socks) so that they can fully engage in all of our wonderful outdoor provision. **This bag can stay in school.**

If your child has their own waterproof suit, this can be really useful to have in school to protect their clothing when playing in our very messy areas like the mud kitchen, clay and large water areas. These areas are fantastic for developing lots of concepts which support children's mathematical understanding, as well as skills for writing - they really get the most out of this provision when they are able to fully immerse themselves in it!

## The Enormous Crocodile

You should have already received some information about our upcoming trip to the Leeds Playhouse on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, where all children will be lucky enough to watch a performance of 'The Enormous Crocodile'.

We will be reading the book and exploring the characters in preparation for the performance - it should be a fantastic experience!

**Just a reminder, a payment of £7.50 is due by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November for this trip. Thank you!**

## Reading Cafe

We are looking forward to welcoming you again this half term for our weekly Reading Café's, which run from 2.45pm - 3.15pm. We have had to change a couple of the dates so please see below for the dates for this half term:

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**  
**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**