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Executive Principal: Mrs M.E. McCarthy MA; Ed.M

**Reception Newsletter**  
**w/c 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Dear RGM and RB families,

Last week we spoke in class about friendship and kindness (our Reception focus for Anti-Bullying Week). The children have spoken about what makes a good friend and shown some lovely acts of kindness. We have a Proud Jar in our classrooms and anyone who shows exceptional kindness has their name put in the jar. At the end of the term a name will get pulled out at random and that person will have some reward time and take part in an activity of their choice.

**Reading Books, library books and phonics home learning**

Just a reminder that reading books and phonics learning will continue to be sent home on a Friday. Please ensure these are returned each Wednesday.

The reading books match your child's phonics level. These books will be introduced during the week in our 'Guided Reading' sessions. It is crucial that these books are re-read at home to consolidate learning and build comprehension and understanding. The children will be very excited to show off their super reading with you and will hopefully feel empowered by accessing a book they are familiar with. At the moment we are focussing on recognising the sounds in a word and then blending them together to read the word.

**Dates for your diaries**

On **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** we will be fundraising for BBC Children in Need. The theme this year is Be SPOTacular and children can wear something spotty to school for a suggested donation of £1. This can be a top, trousers, socks, dress, accessories or whole outfit! They may also wear any Children In Need-themed accessories as sold in local shops or online. Children can bring in their donation that day and the class teacher will collect them in as soon as they arrive.

On **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November** Reception are having a Fairy Tale Dress Up Day! Children may dress up as a Fairy Tale character or wear clothing/accessories linked to this theme. Please ensure children wear appropriate and comfortable shoes for running around in, such as trainers.

As PE is timetabled on a Friday we will play some Fairy Tale-related games so PE Kit that day is not required. Please come and ask if you have any questions.

**Reception Nativity:** A reminder that we will be performing "Whoops a Daisy Angel" on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**. More information regarding timings and how to attend will follow.

**Learning:**

- **Our topic for this term is 'Fairy Tales'**

*Our topics are highly influenced by the children's interests therefore activities may change from those planned.*

**English**

In Our English learning this term, we will be exploring a wide range of fairy tales. We will also read lots of the same fairy tales written by different authors. You can support this at home by also sharing fairy tales together and picking up on key language such as "once upon a time" and "they all lived happily ever after..." Can you retell and act out favourite fairy tales through play? Can you create your own fairy tale?



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## Arts and Crafts

The Reception children love arts and crafts activities! To support them in this we would really appreciate any donations of craft resources; craft lollipop sticks, pom poms, foam shapes, paper squares, sequins, coloured paper, poster paints etc. If you have anything lying around at home not being used we will make good use of it! Thank you so much.

## Maths

This week we are learning to identify number bonds to 5.

Examples of questions/stem sentences used in class: "How many ways can you make the number 5?"

If you would like any further information on Maths at Saxon, please refer to the Saxon Maths website:  
<https://saxonmaths.weebly.com/>

### Through our classroom provision, this week we will also be focusing on the following:

- UW (Understanding the World) – thinking about fairytale environments, looking for signs of Autumn
- PSED (Personal, social and emotional development)- "Celebrating Difference: What am I good at?", We will also follow on our learning about friendship and kindness.
- EAD (Expressive arts and design) – Using story language to enhance our play, creating fairy tale scenes and settings
- PD (Physical development)-This term we will continue to develop 'Body Management' skills
- RE (Religious Education) – Why do we have celebrations?

### Notices/Reminders:

- We will be exploring a range of fairy tales this term. If your child has a fairy-tale book at home that they would like to bring in to share at story time, we would love to read it!
- Please scan the **QR code** below to join the Reception Parents WhatsApp group:



- Please do not hesitate to email or call the school if you have any questions. Class teachers can be contacted via [info.saxon@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk](mailto:info.saxon@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk)

### Maths home learning - something to try at home

How many ways can you represent the number 5?

There are some lovely interactive maths games here for children to access at home. We use these in school so children will already be familiar with some of them.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>

Kind Regards,  
Reception Team  
Mrs Bright, Mrs Morley and Miss Glaves