

# ACORN CLASS NEWS



# Acorn Class Term 3 Newsletter

This letter outlines some of the main events for this half-term, messages and reminders of weekly routines relevant to Acorn Class.

## Our Class

**Class Teacher: Mrs O'Donnell**  
**Teaching Assistants: Mrs Balfour and Mrs Crichton**

## Our Day

Morning Session 8.30 a.m- 11.45 a.m.  
Afternoon Session 12.45 p.m- 3.15 p.m.  
Morning break is 10.15 a.m to 10.30 a.m.

## Water bottles

Please ensure your child has a bottle of water with them every day so they are able to have a drink whilst in the classroom. We will try to ensure all bottles are taken home at the end of the school day.

## PE and Outdoor learning

Children should wear their PE kit into school on a Thursday for outdoor learning and PE.

Please ensure all clothing is **clearly named**.

Long hair should be tied back, and all jewellery and earrings removed for PE lessons.

### PE clothes:

Plimsolls/trainers

Black Shorts/tracksuit bottoms/leggings

White t-shirt

Black jumper/hoodie

For outdoor learning please ensure your child has a **full length** jumper/cardigan and trousers.

## Spare Clothes

Please bring in a bag of spare clothes for your child (trousers, tights or leggings, socks and underwear) in case they need to change due to the weather or accidents.

If we have to use spare clothes from school then please return these as soon as possible.

## Toys in School

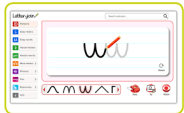
Please ensure your child does not bring toys from home into school, as we do not want these to be lost or broken.

This term we will be learning:

**Phonics:** This term we will continue to learn sounds every day. We will have a big focus on blending sounds to read words simple words and encouraging children to blend and read words more independently.

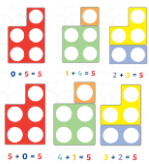
**Reception High Frequency Words**

I	go	come	want	up
you	day	was	look	are
the	of	we	this	dog
me	like	going	big	she
and	they	my	see	on
away	mum	it	at	play
no	yes	for	a	dad
can	he	am	all	is
cat	get	said	to	in

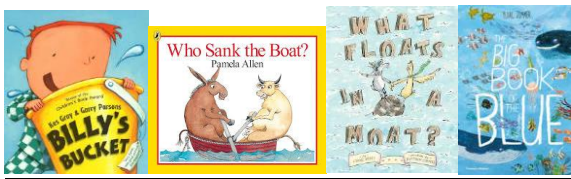


**Handwriting:** This term we will be continuing to build on the skills the children learnt last term. We will have a strong focus on correct letter formation and challenging ourselves to write simple words and sentences.

**Spellings:** This term we will start spelling, they will be sent home on our homework sheets every Friday and then tested the following Friday. If the spelling is red, it is a tricky word which you child will need to remember by sight, for example; **the**. However if the word is green, your child will be able to use their sounds to write the word. For example; **cat**



**Maths:** Our White Rose maths topic to start the term is called 'Alive in 5!' where we will continue to consolidate and learn more about numbers to 5. We will be identifying, representing and comparing numbers to 5. We will also learn about weight and capacity. Towards the end of term, we will focus on the topic 'Growing 6,7,8' where we will learn all about numbers to 8. It would be helpful if you could practise number facts to 5 at home (pairs of numbers that add together up to 5.)



**Our Topics:** Our focus this term is 'Wonderful Water'. We will be exploring floating and sinking, water in the environment like seas and rivers, as well as ice. The children will have lots of hands on experiences to investigate water and its properties.

**Design and Technology:** Acorn class will be making vegetable soup! We will explore and taste some of the different fruit and vegetables we could put into our soup and will also be learning about how they grow. Our role-play area has been turned into a fantastic new café for the children to explore writing recipes and menus and of course, lots of cooking.

**Jigsaw PSHE learning:** Our Jigsaw focus this term is Dreams and Goals. We will talk about setting ourselves goals and working hard to achieve them. We will discuss the importance of perseverance and not giving up. We will also explore different careers and the children will talk about what they would like to be when they grow up.

**RE:** Our Big Question focus this term is "which stories and special and why?" We will discuss stories that are special to us and stories we like to read. We will also explore stories that are special to Christians and Muslims. If you have a special book at home that you would like to share with us, please send us a photo on Tapestry or bring the book in and the teachers will take good care of it.

**Music:** We will continue to learn and sing a range of nursery rhymes. We will learn nursery rhymes such as: I'm A Little Teapot, The Grand Old Duke Of York, Ring O' Roses, Hickory Dickory Dock and The ABC Song.

**How I can support my child's learning at home:**

Read daily with your child and record daily reading in their yellow reading record. This could include books shared at home. They will bring home a library book for you to share. These may be books that you can read to them. Encourage your children to sound out and blend sounds together to read simple words independently when possible. Reading books are changed on a **Monday** and a **Thursday** so we will need their reading packs in school.



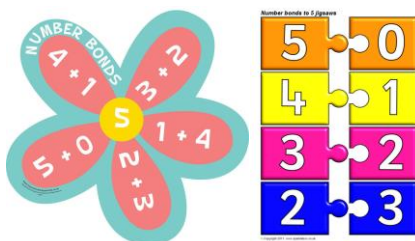
**High frequency word sets:**

Please continue to practise the high frequency word cards. Some of these are red words, which means they cannot be sounded out and they just need to be learnt. They will receive a new set of words once they are able to sight read their set. This means being able to recognise the words correctly without sounding them out. Once your child has learnt these words fluently, they will be given a new set of words to learn as well as recapping their previous set.

1	am	is	at
2	in	a	it
3	on	I	up
4	cat	me	can
5	dog	we	dad
6	big	he	get
7	mum	the	and
8	yes	no	my
9	this	of	look
10	day	to	went
11	see	she	all
12	for	was	are
13	like	you	go
14	play	come	said
15	away	going	they

**Writing at home:** It would be helpful if your child could practise writing their name at home. When writing at home, support your children with holding their pencil correctly (also known as the tripod grip) with their dominant hand.

**Maths at home:** Each week there will be an outline of what we have been focusing on in maths in your sound book so you are aware of our learning each week and could link to this at home. It would also be very beneficial for you to support your child with recalling numbers bonds (pairs of numbers) that add together to make 5.



**Basic skills:** Please continue to teach your children basic skills such as putting on their own shoes, jumpers and coats (including practising zips!)

Key dates and events this term	
5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	First day of term
15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Year 6 trip to Folkestone Museum
29 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	PTFA quiz
6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Fire Safety Workshop
9-13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Children's Mental Health week
10 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Internet Safety Day
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Last day of term
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Valentines Disco
13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	INSET day

Any important messages will be sent home with your child via letter, posted on our Harcourt Primary School Facebook page and/or sent to you via Bromcom.

If you do need to contact us, you can use the class email account:

[acorns@harcourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:acorns@harcourt.kent.sch.uk)

Mrs O'Donnell

Class Teacher

