

# ACORN CLASS NEWS



# Acorn Class Term 4 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, Mrs Crichton**

## Our Day

**Morning Session 8.30 a.m- 11.45 a.m.**  
**Afternoon Session 12.50 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.

Basic skills: Continue to teach your children basic skills such as independently toileting, putting on their own shoes, jumpers and coats (including practising zips and buttons).

This term we will be learning:



**Phonics:** This term we will continue to learn sounds every day and recap sounds we have learnt. We will continue to focus on encouraging the children to identify and blend sounds to be able to read words more independently. Some children will be learning Set 2 sounds.

**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



Speed Sounds Set 2

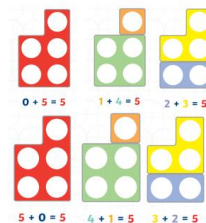
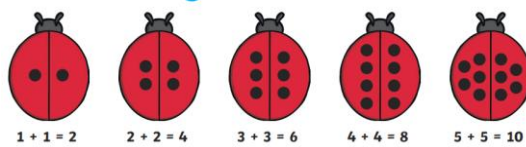


**Handwriting:** This term, we will continue to practise our pencil grip and working on our fine motor skills. We will encourage the children to use a tripod grip. We will also be learning how to form different letters. Our focus letters each week will be sent home in homework folders so you can practise at home. Please also continue practising writing your child's name.

**Maths:** We are going to focus on the White Rose topic length, height and time. This will involve exploring and comparing length and height. We will start to look at time and the children will order and sequence important times in their day and significant events in their lives. We will be planting our own seeds and will be watching and discussing how they change over time. We will then move onto our next topic 'building 9 and 10' where we will begin to learn more about identifying, representing and the composition of the numbers 9 and 10. 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 and doubles to 10.



- 0 + 5 = 5
- 1 + 4 = 5
- 2 + 3 = 5
- 3 + 2 = 5
- 4 + 1 = 5
- 5 + 0 = 5
- 5 + 0 = 5
- 4 + 1 = 5
- 3 + 2 = 5
- 2 + 3 = 5
- 1 + 4 = 5
- 0 + 5 = 5



**Our topic this term is People Who Help Us:** We will discuss the people in our community who help us, understand what an emergency is and who we should call. We will then move on to Healthy Bodies, looking at exercise, healthy food and how to look after our teeth. Towards the end of term, Acorn class will be starting to learn more about Spring and seasonal change and we will go on a nature walk in the park. This also links to our RE big question this term

**'What is special about our world?'** We will be planting our own seeds and observing how they grow over time. We will look at mini-beasts and go on a mini-beast hunt. We will learn about Easter and the children will talk about how Easter is celebrated. This will include lots of opportunities for Spring and Easter artwork and crafts!



**Jigsaw learning:** Our topic this term is called 'Healthy me'. We will be learning about and discussing how we can keep ourselves healthy through exercise, our diet, sleeping patterns and keeping ourselves clean. We will also discuss the importance of keeping ourselves safe including from strangers.

**Music:** We will continue to learn a range of different nursery rhymes. These include: Wind the Bobbin Up, Five Little Monkeys Jumping On The Bed, If You're Happy And You Know It and Head, Shoulders, Knees And Toes.

**Science Week:** This term we will be encouraging lots of curiosity and questions with several experiments. We are going to be learning about our focus scientist Eleanor Foraker, who designed the space suit and we will be designing and making our own space suits too. Acorn class look forward to welcoming you all to the Science Fair near the end of the term, where you can investigate and explore the activities for yourselves!

### 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.



Continue to practise the Set 1 sounds and blending at home.

#### 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

## Key dates and events this term:

25 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Young Voices
27 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Year 4 Antarctic Day
2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 6 Bikeability
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2026	Book Swap
5 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	World Book Day
16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 2.30-3pm	EYFS/KS1 Mother's Day event
17 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 2.30-3pm	KS2 and siblings Mother's Day event
20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Red Nose Day (non-uniform day)
26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 2pm	SEND coffee afternoon
27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Swap Shop
30 <sup>th</sup> March and 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2026	Parent Consultations
2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026 2.30pm	Science Fayre
6 <sup>th</sup> April - 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Easter Holidays
20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Children return to school

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