

Pluto Class Newsletter – Autumn Term 1 – 2nd Edition

Dear Parents and carers,

The first term is in full swing, and the children have settled well into the routines of the day. We are excited to now be beginning daily phonics and maths sessions and continue to immerse ourselves within our termly learning question.

Termly Learning

Along with the rest of school, we have 3 overarching themes to our termly learning. Each class then has their own questions which we answer through our teaching and provision. They are as follows:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Whole School Theme	Britain is Great		Fantastic Journeys		Our Wonderful World	
Pluto Class Questions	Who am I?	Who are we?	What if I went on a journey?	Who could I meet?	What might I grow into?	What might I find...?

This term the children will be finding out all about themselves, what they look like, what they feel, things they like/dislike and begin to find similarities and differences with their friends. We will be exploring our senses, learning how to keep healthy and even discover what they would like to do when they grow up. We hope the children will really enjoy it.

Phonics

This week, we will be starting to teach your child to read through ‘phonics’. In Phonic sessions, your child will be taught how to: recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes; identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make - such as /sh/or/oo/; and. blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word. To find out more about phonics, how we teach it and how you can support your child at home, we would like to invite you to our Phonics information session. This will be held at 9 – 9:30am on Thursday 9th October. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Reading

At North Road, we encourage a love for reading. We are proud to offer a weekly visit, on a Monday, to the school library. The children will be able to explore what the library has to offer and choose a book to borrow, bring home and share. We ask that library books are returned to school on a Friday. This will start next week.

From next week, we will also start to send home your child’s first reading book. This is a wordless picture book, which encourages children to tell a story or talk about the pictures, learning to hold a book and turn pages. Each Friday, your child will come home with a set of grapheme (letter) cards each week. These cards are for your child to use to make up 2 or 3 letter words. They can practise sounding out each card and practise blending them to make real and nonsense words. Once they are secure in reading from these cards, we will then issue a Phonics Phase 2 levelled reading book which has simple words to begin to sound out and blend, these books will support your child to practise the sounds taught in school.

We actively encourage daily reading and books will be changed daily. Along with your child’s reading book, is a yellow reading record, this is for recording when your child is heard read, either at home or at school. Please comment and sign the record each time you hear your child read, as this will count towards our school reading awards. *(Children may have up to two reads, of school banded reading books, counted in their reading totals on any one day – teachers will sign your child’s Reading Record in school if they have listened to them read. This will count as one read. We ask you to listen to your child read every day. This will be the second read. If you listen to your child read multiple times during a day, this will be counted as one daily read.)*

To ensure that the reading books, library books, letters and belongings are kept as they should, please can we ask that water bottles are not carried inside book bags, thank you.

PE Days

PE sessions have already begun. To confirm, Pluto Class PE Days are every Monday and Thursday. Please continue to ensure your child comes to school dressed in their PE Uniform on both of these days and with hair tied up.

Open Classrooms

Wednesday 15th October 2- 3pm

We are looking forward to welcoming you to come and share in your child's learning ahead of Parents' Evening in November. Come and spend time with your child in the classroom and outdoor learning environments. The children will be keen to show what they have been learning about, with photos and work on display.

Pick Ups

Thank you so much to all the parents who notify us of any changes to who is regularly picking up their child. Please can we also ask that every family checks their Arbor account and ensure all adults picking up have been added and /or updated as having consent to.

Pluto Class End of Term Learning Celebration

On Tuesday 21st October, we would like to invite the children to come dressed up in something that tells us about them. This could be: a football kit for their favourite team; Clothing or uniform from a club/activity ie ballet, gymnastics or football club; Something showing us what they would like to be when they grow up or anything else that is special or significant to them. We can't wait to see what everyone is wearing.

WOW Messages!

We love to hear about the children's learning, special achievements and the activities they participate in outside of school. We know that they are continually learning and developing in everything that they do and WOW messages are a way for us to find out about the particularly significant successes that take place at home or during extra-curricular activities. This will help us to build a picture of your child's learning journey through their Reception year.

A WOW message sheet will be coming home in your child's book bag for you to complete when you wish to. Thank you for your support, we look forward to celebrating your child's achievements together.

Can you help us?

We love to enhance the learning for our children in Pluto. Please take a look at our wish list below and let us know if you are able to help us or donate any of these items. Many Thanks ☺

Our bikes, trikes and scooters need some love and attention. Are you familiar with fixing bikes and can spare some time to help us get them working? If so, please message Miss Hobbs ☺



Our planters and beds need brightening up, any donations of Winter Bedding Plants such as Heathers, Pansies or Polyanthus will be gratefully received.

Unwanted rolls of wallpaper are always needed, please spread the word amongst family and friends.



Dates for your diary:

09/10/25 Phonics Information Session – 9 - 9:30am

10/10/25 Hello Yellow Day – come dressed in yellow!

15/10/25 Open Afternoon 2 - 3pm

20/10/25 Harvest Celebration Assembly – EYFS and KS1 2:40pm

21/10/25 Pluto Dress Up Day

23/10/25 Author Visit

24/10/25 INSET Day – School closed to pupils

We are always available to answer queries or questions in person at the beginning, end of each day or via the Class Dojo App. No question is too silly!

Yours Sincerely

Miss Hobbs, Mrs Pearce, Mrs George and Mrs O'Neil