

# EARLY YEARS NEWS

Loose Primary School

## FEATURED THIS TIME:

A wonderful start

In partnership with you

Tapestry

Giving your child the very  
best start - reading at home

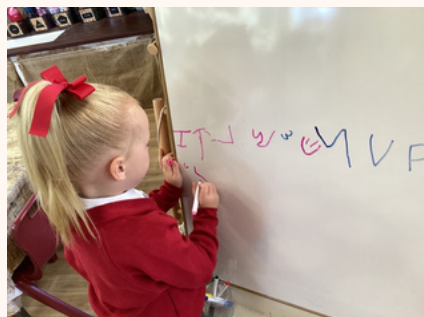


## A WONDERFUL START

We really have had the most wonderful start to the academic year thanks to your amazing children! They have settled really well into life in YR at Loose Primary School, taking everything in their stride and becoming well adjusted to the routines. It is lovely to see them come into school each day smiling, happy and ready for the day's learning ahead.

We would like to thank you all for your support with transitioning your children into school - thank

you for your punctuality at drop off and collection times and for trusting us with the start of their learning journey! We are always available to talk - any questions or concerns, just get in touch with the EY team.



## UNIFORM

Here are a few reminders about uniform expectations:

- **Shirts** - full collared shirts, no polo shirts or blouses with patterned or frilly collars
- **(Girls) grey tights only** - no black, red or white tights
- **Black school shoes** - no boots or white-soled trainers
- **Socks** - grey for boys, grey or white for girls
- **Jumpers / cardigans** - 'Loose' official ones please - can be bought from Pages or from our second-hand uniform shop
- **Ties** - do not need to be worn in YR but compulsory from Y1

## WHAT HAVE YOUR CHILDREN BEEN LEARNING SO FAR?

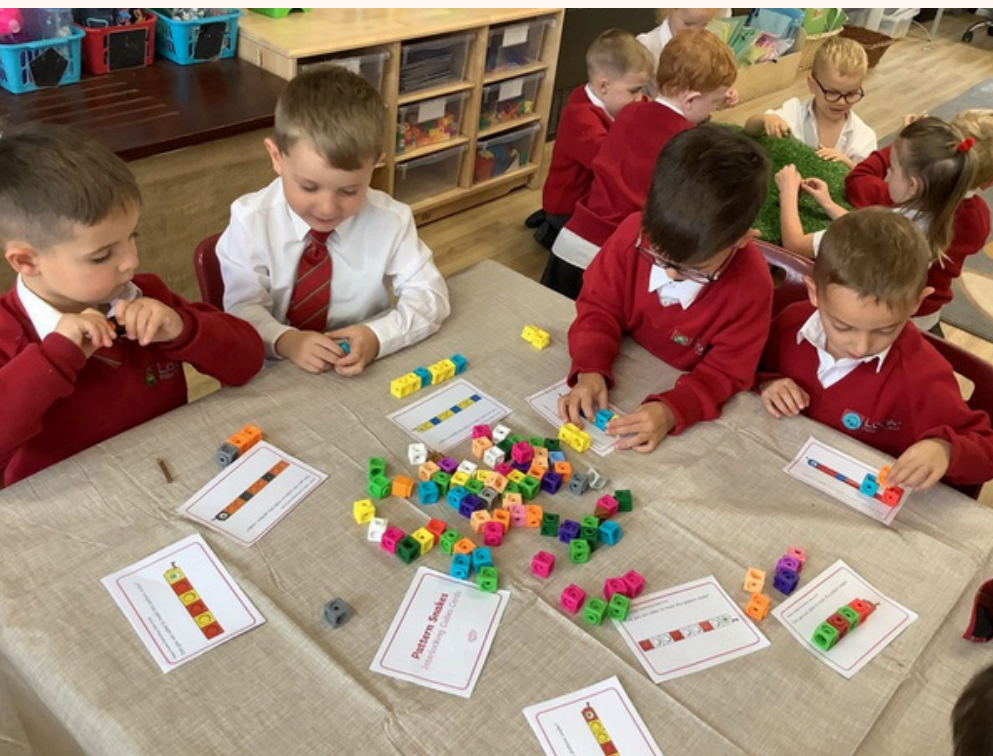
What a busy first term! We have hit the ground running with our literacy learning and read the fabulous bear-themed core texts: 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Biscuit Bear' and the 'Everywhere Bear'. The children have retold stories drawing on key language, made story maps, identified rhyming words, made their own Biscuit Bear characters with and built circuses just like Biscuit Bear did! We ended the term by introducing our very own class Everywhere Bears - the children can take the class bear home each week; watch out - they may be coming to your house soon!

We have also been looking at the signs of autumn that we can see around us. A big thank you for all of the wonderful natural items that were kindly sent into school.

The children also created a fantastic outdoor giant conker run using the pipes and stands. We had conkers whizzing in all directions which was truly a lot of fun! We have been on autumn walks around our school grounds, have looked at colours of autumn and made leaf rubbings.

In maths, the children have been busy learning to subitise, giving them a deep foundation of number that we can build on throughout the year. Our maths learning has been complemented by the Numberblocks, looking at sorting rules and applying these to buttons, comparing the length and height of objects, exploring capacity of boxes and being human balancing scales to compare the weight of objects, learning that bigger doesn't always mean heavier!

This is just a short summary of some of the highlights from this term, so as you can see it has been very busy. We hope you all have a lovely rest over the next week, ready to come back refreshed and ready to learn some more!



## HARVEST FESTIVAL

A huge thank you to all of the parents who donated items for the school's Harvest Festival this year. It is amazing when we support our community in this way and there will be many people who benefit from your generosity. The children enjoyed the walk to All Saints Loose church with their Year 6 buddies for the first time. We were so proud of our YR children in the church - they all listened well, joined in with the singing and left with a great understanding of what Harvest Festival means.

## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU

Next term, we are looking forward to welcoming you into school for the first parent-teacher consultations of the academic year for your child. Parent-teacher evenings are so valuable for you as parents, as well as valuable for us as teachers. Children's success in school is built upon a strong relationship between us both and we value the chance to hear about your children as much as

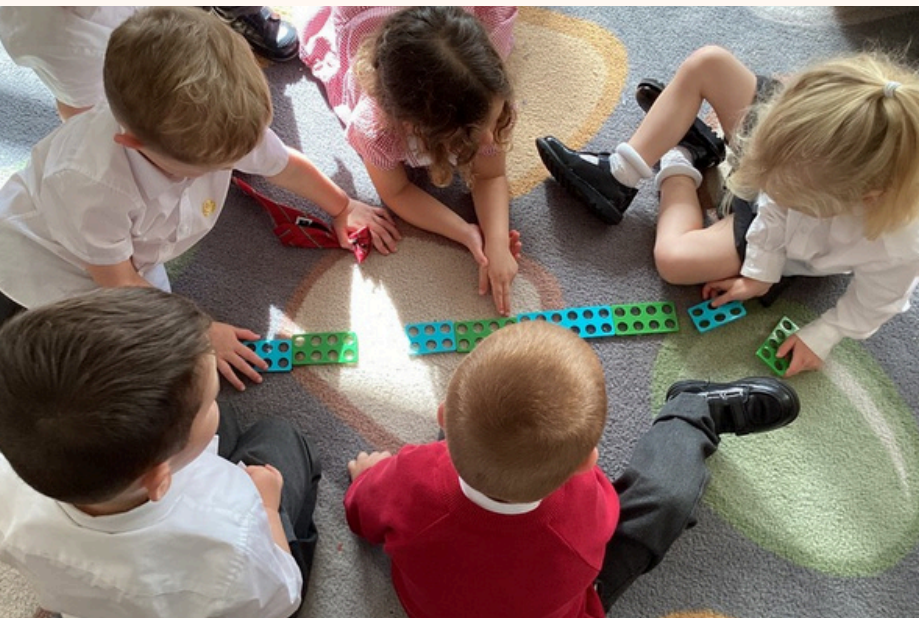
you enjoy hearing about their learning in school. Look out for the email coming soon, telling you how to sign up for these.

If you have any questions about your child's progress or learning between these evenings, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher. You can also contact myself (Mrs Oliveri) as the Early Years Leader if you have any questions or concerns.



## PHONICS & READING WORKSHOP

Thank you to everyone who attended the YR 'Phonics and Reading Workshop' a few weeks ago. We hope that you found it beneficial with supporting your child in YR at home. If you have any further questions, please do speak to myself as the Early Years Leader or Miss Payne who is our Phonics and Literacy Leader.



## LEARNING IN TERM 2

Our theme for next term is 'Pumpkins and Parties'. This topic is great fun and the children's learning will be focused around the core texts: 'Pumpkin Soup' by Helen Cooper, 'Pattan's Pumpkin' by Chitra Soundar and 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson. The children will be learning about the seasons, growth and decay, festivals from around the world... and will have all sorts of fun with pumpkins!



## GIVING YOUR CHILD THE VERY BEST START - READING AT HOME

Research evidence proves that involvement from parents and reading at home significantly improves children's reading ability. Your child will be taking books home to share with you, as well as the phonemes they are learning in school. Please find time **every day** to practise recognising and saying these phonemes as well as reading their book together. We notice

that just 10-15 minutes every day really does make a huge difference to children's progress. Please ensure that you **sign your child's Reading Journal** book every day that they read at home (including weekends). We keep a record of this in school and the children will be rewarded with a certificate when they reach each of the reading levels as shown opposite...

**50 reads = Apprentice Reader**  
**100 reads = Explorer Reader**  
**150 reads = Adventurer Reader**  
**200 reads = Champion Reader**  
**250 reads = Master Reader**

Once children reach the 'Master Reader' status, they will receive an extra special reward. Thank you in advance for your support.

### BISCUIT BEAR BAKE OFF

Thank you to everyone who baked yummy goods for the YR Biscuit Bear Bake Off. There were many amazing designs and it was clear that so much effort had gone into the biscuits. We raised a total of **£537.71** for our Early Years children - we will use this money to upgrade our small world toys and resources.



### REMINDERS

- Please ensure that your child has **wellies** in school - we go outside in all weather and like to take advantage of our amazing school grounds, including the woodland.
- We have spare clothes for the occasional toileting accident in school. If your child is prone to regular accidents, then please provide a spare change of underwear and clothing for us to keep in school. Thank you.
- If your child has long hair, please ensure it is tied up - this stops it from getting in their way when busy playing, as well as discouraging the sharing of potential creepy-crawlies that love to live in long hair!

### TAPESTRY ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL



As many of you are already accessing so readily, in Year R at Loose, we use the 'Tapestry Online Learning Journal'. Tapestry is a great way to keep in touch with what your children get up to during their time in Year R. We will upload pictures of your children on a fortnightly basis, this can be anything, ranging from making biscuit bears to forming beautiful letters during phonics. Tapestry is a platform where teachers and parents can keep connected with their children and pupils. We know you enjoy seeing what your children are up to while at school, but we would also like to see your children's achievements outside of school too. We encourage sharing photos of your children's weekend and their achievements; *What have they been up to? Who have they visited? Where have they been?* This allows us to sit and talk with your child about their family and social life and get to know them even better. It also helps with our assessments of children's attainment and progress as you will always be your child's first teacher! It is such a joy seeing children speak so excitedly about their life outside of school. We want to know what makes them **them!** From swimming achievements to pumpkin picking, keep uploading to Tapestry.

## BUILDING INDEPENDENCE

As part of helping our YR children grow in confidence, we are focusing on developing their independence. Over the holiday, we kindly ask you to support your child at home by encouraging them to practise putting on and taking off their own coats and shoes. This small, everyday routine can help children build important self-care skills and a sense of pride in doing things for themselves. Thank you for your continued support.

## BABY BEAR'S 3<sup>RD</sup> BIRTHDAY!

On the last day of term, we celebrated not just Baby Bear's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, but also a fantastic first term at school. The children brought in their teddies, we played games, sung songs, played pass the parcel and even got to watch some special shorts about 'Old Bear' by Jane Hissey. The children made cards for Baby Bear which included representations of 3, made cakes with candles from the playdough and made repeating patterns with our bear figures. We then all added our fingerprints to a class bear figure, something that can be kept in the classroom to remind us of our first term's learning at school and all the friends we have made.

To support our learning in Term 2, we are asking every child to bring a pumpkin to school for the first week back. These can be any size, shape or colour, but must be uncarved and undecorated. Thank you for your support.



## NATIVITY 2025

It's the time of year when we start planning the Year R Christmas Nativity. We know that this is such a special event for parents and families and we look forward to inviting you into school to watch your children's performance. This year, we will be performing 'Baarmy Bethlehem', the story of three sheep who are real party animals and have heard about a celebration in Bethlehem! Dates will be in the school newsletter and ticket information will be sent out in due course.



### UPCOMING DATES:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov – First day of Term 2
- 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Flu vaccines
- 6<sup>th</sup> Nov – Outdoor Classroom Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> Nov – PTA Laser Firework Display
- 10<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> Nov – Anti-Bullying Week
- 14<sup>th</sup> Nov – 'Children in Need'
- 17<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> Nov – Road Safety Week
- 18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parent Evenings
- 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – PTA Christmas 'Secret Santa' gifts for parents
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dec – Non-Uniform Day
- 9<sup>th</sup> Dec – 9:30am – YR Nativity (*younger children welcome*)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Jumper Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Lunch
- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec – 9:30am – YR Nativity (*adults only – no children*)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dec – Last day of Term 2

A SNAPSHOT OF  
LIFE IN THE EARLY  
YEARS AT LOOSE:



