

# EARLY YEARS NEWS

Loose Primary School

## FEATURED THIS TIME:

A wonderful start

In partnership with you

Learning in Term 2

Year R Nativity 2023



## 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:

- **Grey tights only** - no black, red or white
- **Shirts** - full collared shirts, no polo shirts or blouses with patterned or frilly collars
- **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 covered many traditional tales including Little Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and The Gingerbread Man to name a few. The children have retold stories drawing on key language, made 'Wanted!' posters for the wolf, identified rhyming words, made ginger-bread characters with playdough and built bridges for the Billy Goats Gruff. We ended the term by creating our own traditional tales, drawing on the knowledge we have gained throughout the last seven weeks.

We have also been looking at Autumn, the signs we can see around us & using natural objects to create self-portraits. A big thank you for all of the wonderful

natural objects that were sent into school to enable us to do this. 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 looked at colours of Autumn, been on colour hunts, made leaf rubbings, leaf prints and made our own natural paints using blackberries, mud and turmeric. The children learnt about hedgehogs and what they need for hibernation and created their own hedgehog homes for our class hedgehogs. We have completed the term with an artist study on Giuseppe Arcimboldo in which we had a class gallery displaying his work; we voted for our favourite, talked about what we liked about the art and then planned and created portraits influenced by his style of work.

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 Numberblocks, looking at sorting rules and applying these to buttons, comparing the length and height of objects 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 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

Thank you for attending parent-teacher consultations last week. It was great to have the time to talk with you about your children. 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. We look forward to the next consultation evenings in Term 3 - however, if you have any questions about your child's progress or learning before that time, 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

Last week, you would have received an email inviting you to a 'Phonics and Reading Workshop' in Term 2. This workshop will be especially beneficial for parents of children in YR. It will give you information about how we teach phonics and reading at Loose, as well as practical tips and ideas for how to support your child with this at home. Parents who have attended this in the past have commented on how valuable this workshop has been. You can sign up for the workshop [here](#).



## 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!

We will be pushing ahead with more phonemes in Term 2. Thank

you to those of you who read and practice phonics with your children regularly at home - it really does make such a difference to their progress and enables us in school to challenge them further. Little and often is key at this age!

## YEAR R CHRISTMAS NATIVITY 2024

It's the time of year when we start looking forward to and 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.



### GINGERBREAD BAKE OFF

Thank you to everyone who baked yummy goods for the YR Gingerbread 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 **£301.73** for Early Years - the children will help us to spend it!

To support our learning in Term 2, we are asking all children to bring a pumpkin/s 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.



### REQUESTS & 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!



A SNAPSHOT OF  
LIFE IN THE EARLY  
YEARS AT LOOSE:



