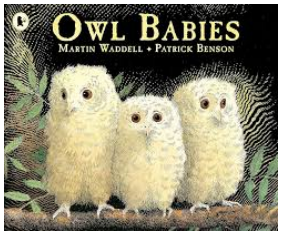
Hellingly Community Primary School
Galaxies
Term 1 Newsletter

Can I build another me?

I am delighted to welcome you and your child into our Reception class and I can't wait to start the fun-filled term ahead. I have really enjoyed beginning to get to know your children through our home visits this week, and look forward to seeing everyone in school next week for our staggered starts. Our main focus to begin with will be getting to know each other and helping your child to settle into the routines of school life, to ensure they are happy and ready to learn. We will be spending the first week or so building on the previous summative assessments provided by the pre-schools and nurseries and carrying out our own baseline observations to see where we think your child is starting Reception against the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum . We are also expected to carry out a government baseline assessment on every child within the first six weeks of term. Please be assured that we will just be playing alongside them and asking some questions to record their mathematical understanding and communication and language skills. It is not intensive or time consuming and not anything to cause concern. If you do have any questions about this however, please do not hesitate to see me. For the first two weeks, we will be using our transition book 'Owl Babies' in our classroom learning and activities.



Our enquiry led topic this term is called, '**Can I build another me?**'. We will be learning about what makes us unique and our similarities and differences between others and ourselves. We will also learn about our feelings, how our behaviour can affect others and how we can keep ourselves and others happy. We will be learning about **Harvest** this term and finding out where our food comes from. We will learn about the people and processes involved in getting different food ready for us to eat.

Maths	Reading
We will be using NCETM mastering number and the White Rose Maths scheme to support your child's Maths learning. In term 1 we will cover: - Counting aloud and number knowledge to 5.	To begin with, your child will bring home a Reading for Pleasure book that they can select from our class library. Please enjoy sharing this with your child and discuss the story with them. As the term progresses, your child will also have a Little Wandle phonics

- Matching and sorting objects
- Comparing amounts
- Exploring patterns

book to read at home as well. These will be sent home from week 4.

Reading at Home

We will start sending the Little Wandle Big Cat books home from Friday 26th September. Please read these daily with your children and write a comment in the reading record. The books will be collected back in the following week. Please do not carry water bottles in book bags as these often leak and ruin the books. We ask that damaged or lost reading books are paid for at £5 each.Please ensure reading records and reading books come into school everyday.

Phonics

We will begin the year by teaching the single sounds of the alphabet and their corresponding letters. The children will learn to recognise and read each letter; we will use the 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' phonic programme to teach this and we will start to teach the children to blend the first set of sounds. The children will then learn to form each letter correctly for writing. We will send out information regarding what we have been learning in phonics weekly in bookbags. Alongside our Little Wandles phonics programme, we will be consolidating the children's oral skills which they require to be successful in reading and writing. These will include: rhyme, alliteration and oral blending. We understand that all children will enter school at different stages and we will adapt our teaching accordingly.

Important Dates

- Homevisits- 4th/5th September
- Teddy Bears Picnic- Friday 12th September 1:30-2:30
- Staggered starts:

Monday 8th
Group 1- AM (9:15-11:45)
Group 2- PM (1-3)
Tuesday 9th
Group 1- PM (1-3)
Group 2- AM (9:15-11:45
Wednesday 10th- Group 1 only (9-1:30)
Thursday 11th- Group 2 only (9-1:30)
Friday 12th- Both groups (9- 1:30) all parents to join Teddy Picnic 1:30-2:30

Please enter via the school field gate for these.
Monday 16th- All children in full time (8:45-3:15)
Friday 19th September- Tapestry workshop

	and curriculum meeting 3:15 pm Wednesday 1st October Phonic workshop 2:45pm Friday 10th October- Harvest Festival stay and play 2:30-3:15 pm Friday 24th October- Last day of term Monday 3rd November : INSET day Tuesday 4th November: Start of Term 2 Monday 10th November: Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week Thursday 20th November: Parents Evening 4 - 7pm Tuesday 25th November: Parents Evening 4 - 6:30pm *Please see the school website for any other important upcoming dates.*
Don't forget!	**Special Events, News, Activities**
PE is on a Tuesday so please can children come to school wearing their PE kit. **Please bring a packed lunch for the transition days.** Later on in the year, Galaxies will be starting Forest School. More information to follow regarding what clothing will be needed for this. Please label everything so we don't lose any items of clothing. A named water bottle is needed in school every day.	 Please like our page Hellingly Community Primary School to keep updated. You can also find the link to this page on our school website.