

October Newsletter P.1.

Dear parents:

It seems hard to believe that the first month of P.1 is over! Just a few reminders and a few tips on what's ahead for the month of October.

School starts at 8.55am. School ends 1.45pm. Children are only getting used to the longer day. Please pick your child up promptly to avoid any upset or tears.

Children have started on a full school day now. To save confusion between what is a snack and what is lunch please put one healthy snack separate from lunchboxes into a bag/schoolbag pocket. Remind your child each morning about whether they are taking lunch or school dinner.

Children will be taking home folders/taskbags for which they are responsible. These should be brought back to school the next day and your child should be able to put it in the class box each morning themselves. School library books are limited and cannot be changed unless the previous night's book is returned. Please make sure any homework sheets are returned with a name on them.

Library visits have already begun. If your child is not already registered please complete the library application form and return it to school. If your child is already registered please leave their library card with the class teacher. These will be returned at the end of the school year.

One of our topics for the month of October will be Halloween. If you have anything you think might be useful to our role-play area eg. old dress up costumes/masks/decorations which you no longer use we can give them a good home!!!

Dates to remember:

Peter Pan 15th October

Road Safety 22nd October

Halloween holidays 29th, 30th Oct. and the 2nd of Nov.

Focus for the month: Try some of these ideas with your child. Encourage your child to tell you about what we are doing in school

Writing: Drawing different types of lines. Top to bottom, side to side, curvy, straight, zigzag, spirals and naming them.

Writing the letters in our names. Holding a pencil.

Reading: Children will be taking home a library book. This is a story to share and enjoy. Draw attention to the cover, title, author and illustrator. Encourage your child to retell the story from their library book using the pictures and join in with any

repetitive text. Alphabet songs, nursery rhymes and actions for Little Miss Muffet, Baa baa black sheep and Incy Wincy Spider.

Talking and listening: Using the ME boxes to find out about each other. Language and vocabulary associated with ourselves, our bodies and Halloween.

Maths: Counting rhymes, hickory dickory dock, 1/2/3/4/5, Baa baa black sheep, Three blind mice, 5 little ducks etc. Counting to 10. Clap and count, slap knees and count, jump and count. Sorting things during tidy up. Things which belong together. Sorting for colour, shape, size and sameness. Ask your child to sort their socks, the cutlery, dishes, toys, stationery. Can your child identify pattern and plain. Can they find patterns around the house? Continue colour patterns.

P.D.M.U: Getting to know each other and our routines. Making friends and talking to others. Talking about ourselves and our families. Being aware of other people. How we behave affects other people.

The Arts: Movement and body songs. Halloween role-play. Painting ourselves. Patterns in art and music. Exploring and handling instruments, and making sounds with our bodies.

World around us: Naming people in our school and what they do. Knowing about our five senses.
Seasonal changes, cooking (cookies, chocolate apples)

Physical Development: Using scissors, threading beads. Putting on our own coats, jumpers and shoes. Lining up, following the leader, finding big open spaces. Start and Stop. Different ways of moving and travelling.

Religion: Children will be taking home their alive-o books. Talk to your child about their homework page. The children are learning their morning and night prayers.

• Our school web-site address is: www.holyfamily-ps.org.uk
please check regularly as all this information and more will be posted on the website with regular updates and news of upcoming school events.

Plenty of ideas to keep you busy! Good luck!
The P.1. teachers.