



## October 2023

Welcome to our second newsletter of the year.

### Important dates this month.

Rainbow Day – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Dress up party – Superhero dress up party for the special Olympics charity. 27/10/23.

Half term holidays – closed 30/10/2023 to 3/11/2023.

### Where to access information.

Up to date information will be communicated via Family app, Facebook, news section of the website and on our noticeboard.

Parents are encouraged to check regularly throughout the month for updates.

Jolly Pirates staff are here at any time if you would like to speak to us. Please contact us and we will get back to you as soon as possible before or after sessions.

**What is our learning project?** Our learning project this month is ‘Where does it come from’. During this month, the children will have the opportunity to explore the indoor and outdoor environments, investigating our different garden areas and any natural materials that they may find. This project gives the children the opportunity to learn more about the world around them and gaining knowledge by asking staff questions, staff will help them further by researching answers to their questions to encourage and extend interest in the theme.

We will also look at the seasonal change of Autumn taking place and exploring what changes take place e.g., weather/ leaves.

**What activities might we explore?** We will be exploring a wide range of activities within all six areas of the curriculum and learning through play. We will share photos and videos of activities within the classroom with you on Family. Children will have the opportunity to initiate their own play and to continue to develop interactions with peers. Our shape of the month (a circle) and colours of the month (orange and brown) will be explored through a variety of activities including colour and shape hunt.

We will introduce the season of Autumn and discuss the changes in the environment that occur. The boys and girls will explore animals who hibernate during the season of Autumn. During circle time the children will have the opportunity to express their own ideas and thoughts about our new learning project and we discuss the shape of a circle and where we can find it in our environments.

**What might we sing or read?** Children will have the opportunity to explore books freely in our cosy areas e.g., Harry the hedgehog. In addition, we will introduce the season of Autumn through stories. We will also read group stories promoting appropriate behaviours in school e.g., sharing.

To link in with our project, 'Where does it come from' we will take part in a range of songs. This includes 'The leaves on the trees' and 'Scarecrow, Scarecrow'. Our song sheet is available for all parents on Family and on our website.

Children will also be invited to share their favourite songs and stories with peers and staff. What do they sing at home? Do they have a bedtime story they enjoy?

**Additional activities planned?**

Rainbow Day – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. This is a non-uniform day. Children can wear bright clothing/accessories for 'make a wish' charity in memory of a special little boy. More information on Family.

Dress up party – this month we will be having a party day before our half term break. This will be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October.

**What skills are we focussing on?** This month we will continue to focus on building children's independence skills. This will include entering Jolly Pirates independently and confidently separating from parent/guardian. We will also continue to work on the independence skill of putting on their own coat, their all in one weather suit and wellington boots/shoes. This is an important skill to develop for transitioning between the indoor and outdoor environment. We will also be focusing on learning our rules and routines within the classroom environment. An additional letter will be sent home to share this with parents and we will post videos/ photos on Family. This month we will be continuing to practice self-labelling, symbols and pouring.

**Home activity ideas:**

Each month we encourage children and their families to take part in some home activities. There are some home learning ideas on our October plans shared via Family and webpage. We encourage parents/guardians to engage in these alongside their child to build a school to home link. Some activities will be;

A nature hunt or walk with your child collecting leaves, conkers, etc for bringing into school so we can use them in our art area and other activities. We would love some photos of your nature walk so we can display them within our classroom. Please email photos to

[info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk)

We will then share with parents how we are using these activities within the classroom and the link/learning opportunities created.

**Additional information:**

Sickness: please phone Jolly Pirates on 02892 670988, email [info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk) or send a message on Family/mark your child absent to alert staff to your child being off due to sickness. This would be greatly appreciated. Absence must be reported on the day.

Please ensure all items of uniform are labelled including their coat and spare clothes bag clearly labelled.

Any extended family members or childminders, who may be collecting children, will need **photographic I.D.** Staff must be informed the morning of collection or ahead of time that there will be someone other than parents collecting.