



# FS1 Autumn 2 Newsletter

**Important—Please note the changes below:**

**PE is now on a Friday**

**Our Twitter handle is now @EstcourtFS1**



Our Christmas performance is on:

**Tuesday 15th December**

**at**

**10.00 and 2.00**

## Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to exceed their potential.

Good attendance is important because: your child needs to be in the academy to be able to learn and achieve; lessons are taught in a sequence and it can be difficult to catch up if a lesson is missed; for children to have relationships with others and to form lasting friendships; for a child's confidence to attempt new work and to work alongside others.

## Green behaviour

### Being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing!

Green behaviour is expected to be shown constantly by all children. Green behaviour consists of trying hard in their work, being courteous and polite (saying please and thank you), showing respect to others and arriving at school in time for registration.

Our Superhero reward wall is being well used this term and all of the children have shown how eager they are to please and to make good choices at nursery—well done everyone! Many children have filled their reward Superhero and have chosen a toy from our treat box to say well done—this is fantastic! Keep up the good work!



## Literacy

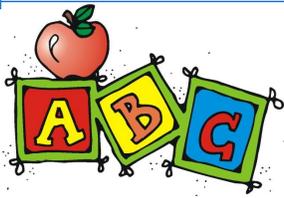
In Foundation Stage One, in line with our theme of 'Superheroes', we began the second half of the term reading 'Charlie's Superhero Underpants' and the children had great fun decorating underpants and hanging them on our washing line in the classroom! We have now introduced a second text which I know the children are very excited about... 'Supertato'. As well as reading the whole book, we are also reading a shorter version. When we read this, we use our 'Talk for Writing' signifiers. These are like sign language which helps us to remember the story. We are bringing the story to life through the exploration of vegetables and role play and we have even explored some 'evil' peas in the feely tray! Through Twitter, we have let the author of this book, Sue Hendra know about our love for the story and she has responded and retweeted—how exciting!



## Maths

We have been busy learning number songs and playing number games on the interactive whiteboard which has really helped us to understand number. We are working on concepts such as what happens when we take items away, and our number songs are really good for embedding this understanding. If you would like to support your child with Singapore Maths (touch counting objects) at home and you would like further information, please see Mrs. Hutchinson. Numbers are everywhere in our environment—while out and about with your children, try number hunting!





## Phonics

Our new children have worked so hard tuning their ears into our listening games and have now completed the 7 weeks schedule of Phase 1 Phonics. The whole class are now working on Phase 2 where we are learning our letter sounds. I know some of the children have been singing our Jolly Phonics songs at home and are really developing their letter recognition skills. Thank you to those parents who have been joining us for 'Phonics Fridays' where I offer demonstrations of phonics games which you can play at home to support your child. It would be great to see more of you at these sessions—they are every Friday at 8.45 to 9.15 and in the afternoon at 2.00 to 2.30. I look forward to seeing you.

## P.E. / Sport

We have P.E. on a Friday. If your child attends nursery on a Friday, they will need to attend **ready** for the lesson and dressed accordingly in clothes suitable for physical exercise. Earrings should be removed or covered for this lesson for your child's safety and long hair must be tied back. We have been learning various ways of moving, sometimes at speed so we need to be aware of who is around us so we don't bump into each other! We are now going to introduce the apparatus in the hall and we will be learning how to use mats and benches safely and how to jump and land safely.



## Homework

Homework will be set each week. Your child will have a homework folder that will be taken home each Friday. Please return this folder before Thursday of the next week so that fresh homework can be given.



## Cooking Day

We cook or bake with your children every **Thursday**. Thank you to those parents who kindly donate ingredients for cooking. We are finding that the morning session is very well resourced but the afternoon session can be a little tricky as fewer donations are made. We appreciate any help with this as the cooking session is a great opportunity for our youngest children to learn life skills.



### Clothing worn at school

Could you please ensure that your child's name is clearly marked in each item of clothing as this helps greatly when things are lost, misplaced or unintentionally taken home by other children. Please check your child hasn't brought anything home by mistake. We may label clothing (not coats or outdoor shoes) if it is not clearly marked. Sometimes, there may be three or four identical coats so to be sure that you are taking the right one, it is advised to write your child's name on the label.



Remember to keep up to date with us! We are aware that some parents prefer their children not to appear on social media, but you can still follow the class Twitter account. It is a great way to keep up to date with what is happening at school and often provides a doorway into a meaningful conversation with your child. This is a great way to develop their communication and listening skills. I often hear that when young children are asked what they have done at school that day, the reply is "Nothing!" - well, Twitter will help you to see exactly what has been going on...and please be assured, your child will never come to Estcourt Primary Academy and do nothing!



@estcourtf1

Website:

<http://www.estcourtprimary.org.uk/>