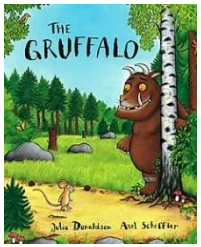
Juniper Hill School

Information for Reception Parents

Term: Autumn 1 **Topic:** The Gruffalo.
2-week topic starting 28.9.26

Welcome to our topic information sheet.



Literacy

We will be reading the stories' '**The Gruffalo**', '**The Gruffalo's Child**' and new release **'Gruffalo Granny'!** by Julia Donaldson. We will be talking about and describing the different characters in the story and then using props to retell the story in our own words. We will also be listening carefully to initial sounds and rhymes in the story. Last week, we started teaching phonics. So far, we have taught **m, a, s, d, t, i, n, g, o.** Please regularly practice these sounds using the sound booklets to ensure they stay confident! This week, we will not be teaching any new sounds, but instead revisiting and reinforcing what we've learnt. Therefore, there will be no new sound booklet to come home this Friday.

End point: *Shows an interest in familiar stories & handles books correctly. Begins to identify characters in a story.*

Maths

We have started to find opportunities to count every day and have looked at ways we can arrange objects to count them reliably. We will be looking at different ways to sort objects and thinking about how there is more than one way to sort things e.g. sorting my colour, size, pattern etc. We will be comparing quantities by counting how many are in different sets and using the words '**more**' and '**fewer**' to compare. Lastly, we will be investigating ways to represent 1, 2 and 3.

Topic work

We will be using oil pastels and exploring the different ways that we can use them, such as smudging and layering. We will also be looking at different textures and exploring how we can create these using paint, playdough and different tools.

Ways you can help:

Coats: Please could you support your child with practising putting on and doing up their coats, independently. The children will frequently be wearing their coat as the weather changes so it's important they practice outside of school!

Name writing: As the children are coming home with lots of lovely pieces of work, it would be highly beneficial for the children to practice writing their name at home - we are doing this lots of school! We have made name cards for each of the children with a starting dot so children know which direction to go. These will be sent home this Friday.

Reminders

Coats: Please can you make sure that your child has a coat in school every day. The weather changes during the day at this time of year and the children carry out a lot of their learning outside.

Drop off: Now that the children are settled into school routines, we are encouraging them to come into the classroom independently each morning. To support this, we kindly ask that parents drop off their child and avoid waiting in the outside area. This will help to get them into a routine and settle quicker.