**Autumn Newsletter 2019-20**

**Chillingham Class**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term, we hope you have had a great Summer Holiday and that the children have enjoyed a well-earned rest after a busy term. We have a new topic with lots of fun activities planned so we are looking forward to getting started!

This term our team is led by myself (Jessica) supported by Rachel, Donna, Tracy, Kori, Beth, Debbie, Lindsey, Amber and Kristina. Louise Allport will remain as our class therapist alongside Anna Sallows who will continue to work in a fully integrated way within our team. This term the class topic will be ‘European Festivals’, particularly focussing on the Harvest Festival as the Autumn term begins. We will be working on the following areas of learning:

* In Maths sessions, we will be working hard on number recognition - building up fluency and confidence with numbers and place value as well as exploring shape and measurement.
* In Food Technology and Baking Therapy, we will be making a range of tasty dishes inspired by Harvested fruits and vegetables.
* In Art we will be relating our work back to our topic of festivals exploring different artists from around the world, using new media and new techniques.
* In Science, we will become explorers conducting and taking part in our very own experiments and recording our findings.
* RE’s topic ‘Hinduism’ will tie in with our Festival inspired topic theme where we will learn all about the cultural differences and celebrations such as Diwali.
* Our Communicational focus will be through our Interactive Stories which allows our children to request a range of resources and equipment, learn new vocabulary and use this in a range of contexts.
* And of course we will continue with visits into the community to transfer the communication and numeracy work we are doing in school.

In speech and language therapy sessions we will be continuing to develop PECS skills and these will be used throughout the school day. Students will be supported and encouraged to interact with each other using their own communication methods.

In occupational therapy sessions we will continue to work on independence skills within self-care activities such as going to the toilet, washing and dressing and using cutlery. We will also continue to use sensory integration sessions to develop pupils understanding and awareness of the sensory systems by providing fun and creative activities.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information, or a chat about pupil progress. There will also be lots of updates each week on Earwig Academic Timelines, where you can view photographs of your child engaging in their school day.

Best Wishes, Jessica and the Chillingham class team

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