VIEWLEY HILL ACADEMY
Team Newsletter

AUTUMN 2 NEWSLETTER
EYFS
2026-2027

MEET OUR TEAM
EYFS Leader: Mrs Dowson
Nursery: Mrs Dowson
Reception: Mrs Smith
Teaching and Learning Assistants:
Miss Hewison, Miss Coupland, Mrs Cook

Pastoral Support: Mrs Stitchell and Miss Langstaff

OUR SCHOOL DAY
Arrival: 8.30am Nursery & 8.40 am Reception
Gates closed: 8.40am Nursery & 8.50am Reception
End of day: Nursery AM 11.20 & Nursery PM & Reception 3:10pm

PE KIT
Children are expected to bring their PE kit (**red shorts, white t-shirt & trainers**) for every session. PE days are as follows:
Mrs Dowson: Wednesday PM nursery & Friday AM nursery
Mrs Smith: Wednesday & Friday

OUR LEARNING THIS HALF TERM
Nursery
This half term, we will complete our learning about autumn, exploring the changes we see outdoors, collecting natural treasures and sharing autumn stories and songs. We will then move on to colour and colour mixing, where the children will enjoy experimenting with paint, water and other materials to discover what happens when colours meet and change.
We will continue to build the foundations for phonics through listening games, rhymes, songs and sound-making activities to develop listening and attention skills. In maths, we will be learning about the numbers 1 and 2, counting objects, spotting numbers in our environment and talking about "one" and "two" in our play.
All of this will lead us towards the excitement of our Christmas celebrations.

Reception
This half term, we will finish our learning about autumn, then explore Diwali, the festival of light, finding out how it is celebrated through stories, art and music. We will also be making colour, mixing paints to see how new colours are created, before we celebrate Christmas together.
In phonics, we will continue to learn our GPCs (the letters and sounds that make up words) and practise blending sounds together to read words. In maths, we will be focusing on in-depth learning of numbers to 5, exploring what each number means, how it can be made, and how to count, compare and recognise it with confidence.

HALF TERM DATES
This is such a busy half term, with both curriculum events and Christmas events too!
Please see the back of this newsletter for all dates for this half term. More detail for each event will follow closer to the time of each event. We look forward to sharing these with you over the coming weeks!





ATTENDANCE
Thank you to you all for your commitment to our school attendance last half term. Whole school statutory attendance for Autumn 1 was 95.2%. Our target is always 96% and we were nearly there. Let's try and make it by the end of term!
Our classes attendances were:
Mrs Dowson: 89.1%
Mrs Smith: 92.5%

Outdoor Learning and Play

As you are aware, we love outdoors in Early Years and we are determined to keep this going as much as possible in the winter months.

Even when it is wet, we will try and get outside as much as possible. Please ensure that your child has a suitable, waterproof warm coat with them over the colder months. They can also bring wellies and tracksuit bottoms with them to change into so they can enjoy the outdoor play without worrying about getting school uniform dirty and wet. We have had many pairs of wellies donated to school, so children will be able to borrow them too. Please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff for more details if you would like.



