

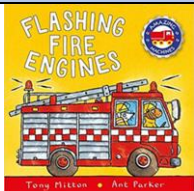


TREEHOUSE

AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to the Treehouse, and a warm welcome to our new families! We're so happy to have you with us for the start of a new term. We are excited to share updates and highlights from our learning journey. At Crabtree Farm Primary, we're proud to offer a caring and engaging environment where every child is supported to thrive. We're really looking forward to watching the children grow and progress this year, it's always such a joy to see their confidence and skills develop. Thank you for being such an important part of our community.

TOPIC HALF TERM ONE



This half term our topic is people who help us

The children will be exploring this topic through:

- ✓ Reading the book *Flashing Fire Engines* by Tony Mitton
- ✓ Explore a collection of stories that show children the people who help us and what to do in an emergency.



Some of the things we will be doing include:

- ✓ Explore a real fire engine
- ✓ Meet a real police officer
- ✓ Look at a first aid kit and take care of the treehouse teddies.

TOPIC HALF TERM TWO

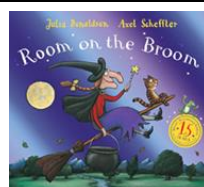
This half term our topic is Julia Donaldson

The children will be exploring this topic through fun, hands-on activities that help them learn more about what an author is and the books she writes:

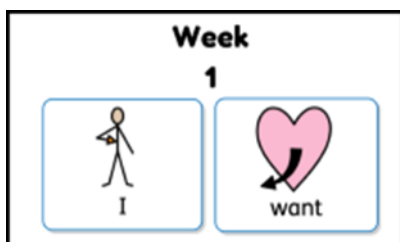
- ✓ Reading *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson.
- ✓ Learn a selection of rhymes with the actions, identifying the different rhyming couplets in the rhymes.

Some of the things we will be doing include:

- ✓ Finding a cauldron
- ✓ Learn different creative techniques: paint, draw, collage and build.



WORD OF THE WEEK



Every child learns differently.

Some children, especially those with Autism, may not use phonics to sound out words. Instead, they often learn by recognising whole words or phrases, which helps them develop speech and understanding.

In the Treehouse, we support this with our 'Word of the Week'.

Children take part in daily activities to explore the word, helping build their vocabulary. You'll see a copy of the word come home each week, feel free to use it together!

SENSORY LEARNING

Sensory learning is a key part of how we support children in the Treehouse.

We use a variety of sensory tools and activities to help children explore, regulate, and engage with their environment. These include **sensory circuits**, **sensory trays**, and **fine motor stations** that support physical development and coordination.

Children also benefit from **movement breaks** and **calm corners**, which help them manage emotions and stay focused. To support body awareness and self-regulation, we use **weighted items**, **fidget tools**, and **body awareness games**. These approaches are especially helpful for children with Autism, making learning more accessible, calming, and enjoyable.



SENSORY CIRCUITS AND PE

Did you know.... exercise makes your brain function better?



We are excited to continue sensory circuits as part of our weekly routine.

Sensory circuits are designed to help children self-regulate, focus and prepare for learning. Each circuit includes a variety of activities that stimulate the senses, such as jumping, climbing and balancing. These activities not only enhance motor skills, but also provide essential sensory input that can help children manage their emotions and improve concentration.

PE will take place on **Tuesdays**.
Sensory circuits and PE will be led by Mr Kiggins.

DIVERSITY CALENDAR

This term as part of our whole school diversity calendar, we will be learning about:

- International day of sign languages
- Black history month
- Harvest festival - Christian festival
- Diwali - Sikh and Hindu festival
- Armistice day
- World Kindness Day
- Hanukkah - Jewish Festival



ONLINE ACTIVITIES & SAFETY TIPS



Children with Autism may be drawn to routines and familiar content, so it's helpful to **set up guided access** on the iPad. This feature lets you lock the device to a single app, helping your child stay focused and safe while using it. It also prevents accidental clicks or access to inappropriate content.

To turn it on:
Go to **Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access**, and follow the steps to enable it.

QUESTIONS AND ISSUES



I want to remind all parents and carers that our door is always open for any concerns or questions you may have regarding your child's development or support needs.

Whether you have specific queries or simply want to have a chat, please feel free to reach out to us.

A CELEBRATION OF OUR LEARNING LAST TERM



Looking back at last half term, we've had some wonderful experiences together.

A real highlight was our school carnival, where the children had a fantastic time taking part in the celebrations, enjoying the activities, and making special memories with their friends.



We also enjoyed our Sports Day, where the children showed great enthusiasm, determination, and teamwork while taking part in a range of exciting events.

We are incredibly proud of the progress the children have made, whether in their communication, independence, social interactions, or confidence. It has been wonderful to see each child develop in their own unique way, and we would like to thank families for their ongoing support and partnership throughout the year.

TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

Visit from a Fire Engine

Children will enjoy a visit from a real fire engine, where they will have the opportunity to meet firefighters, learn about fire safety, and explore the vehicle and equipment. This exciting experience will help build confidence, communication skills, and understanding of people who help us in the community.

Attending a Party

As part of our learning about celebrations, children will enjoy a festive party with music, dancing, and themed activities to explore traditions in a fun and sensory-rich way.



DIARY DATES

	HALF TERM ONE	HALF TERM TWO
	02/09 Start of autumn 1 half term 15/10 Last day of autumn 1 half term 16/10 INSET day	02/11 Start of autumn 2 half term 04/11 Firework Display 13/11 Children in Need 19/11 School photos 25/11 Parents/Carers Evening 01/12 Christmas tree decoration assembly (children may wear a Christmas jumper) 02/12 Christmas Fayre 2-4pm 14/12 Winter Disco 4-5pm 16/12 Christmas dinner day 18/12 Christmas party day 18/12 Last day of autumn 2 half term 04/01 Start of spring 1 half term

OCTOBER HALF TERM HAF

Please see the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) poster, sign posting activities available over October half term. Please scan to QR code or follow the link to see what is available

<https://eequ.org/nottinghamcityholidayactivitiesandfoodhaf>

Nottingham Forest will be running their HAF club at Crabtree Farm in the second week of the October half term on 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th October 10am to 2pm. To book this follow the link <https://eequ.org/book/nottingham-forest-foundation-crabtree-farm-with-nottingham-forest-foundation-25259>

October Holiday Scheme Places for Free



HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD (HAF)

Would your child like to attend a **fully funded holiday scheme** during the October holidays where fun experiences, a meal and snacks are all included?

Children in receipt of, or eligible for, **Free School Meals** can attend up to **4 free holiday activity club places** in the October holidays.




Further information:
www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/haf
 or scan the QR code
 Questions:
haf@nottinghamcity.gov.uk




**Nottingham
City Council**