

Welcome to Little Owls

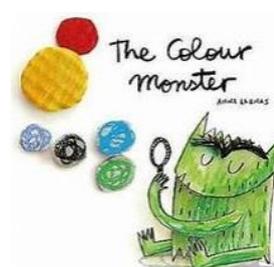
What a great start to school we have had! Mrs Bingham and I are very proud of all the children in how they have made this big step. They have learnt new routines, names and setting very quickly and are confident to speak to us about their needs. Thank you for your patience during the last two weeks.



As we are a Christian school, Collective Worship is part of our daily routine. Our worship theme this half term is **Generosity**. We are learning to share, what this looks like and how it makes us feel, how much fun we can have when we play together.

'It is more blessed to give than to receive'. Acts 20:35

Our topic this half term is '**All about me**'. For this we have been reading *The Colour Monster* and *The Colour Monster Goes to School*. The book looks at how our emotions and feelings change throughout the day as we have new experiences. The children are learning how to talk about their feelings and the different situations we find ourselves in. We are discussing what makes us feel happy - yellow, sad - blue, calm - green, angry - red, scared - black and love - pink and how we show these feelings.

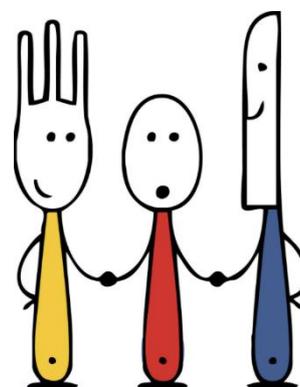


To further our topic and learn more about each other please could your child bring to school a **photograph** of themselves either with family members, friends or doing something they enjoy. We will share these as a class and put them on display, talking about our families and things which make us feel happy.

Part of learning about ourselves has been **recognising our names** – the children can find their pumps, pegs and register themselves in the mornings using their name cards. It also helps to relocate lost items around the classroom so please make sure all belongings are clearly **labelled**.

School dinners have been a success this week! Please try to talk with your child about the school menu to prepare them to make their choices, these can be found on the school website. Little Owls receive a free school meal and it is a chance to allow the children to explore different food choices and flavours. Every day there is the option of the Hot School Meal or a Jacket Potato, on a Friday this will be Hot School Meal or a Panini!

Your child will need their water bottle each day, these need to be clearly **labelled** and also a healthy snack, it is a long time until lunch! Having a **snack** of fruit, vegetable and maybe a cracker will keep us going until lunch arrives.



Cool milk is also available and free for children under the age of 5, to receive this free milk you must register on the cool milk website. www.coolmilk.com – click on parents and follow the instructions.

Phonics – We have started to learn our initial sounds, s,a,t,p,i,n,d. Each day a new sound is introduced and we look at the shape of the letter as well as how it sounds, identifying words that begin with the sound. These are the building blocks for your child’s reading and writing journey and it would be beneficial to quickly practise saying these sounds each day, as we progress more sounds will be added. Orange phonics books will be sent home for regular practise, use them like flash cards to encourage rapid recall and make sure they keep returning to school so we can keep updating them as your child progresses.

Today Little Owls will bring home their **red book bags**, these are a gift from The Friends of Hambleton School. The bags are used daily for reading books, phonics and tricky words books as well as any letters that need to come home. Your child will be encouraged to place these in a box at the start of the day for the adults in the classroom to check for books that need changing and any communication. I will write to explain how we teach phonics as well as reading books in another letter.



Buddies – Today we met our Buddies and your child will have a little note from their buddy introducing themselves. We had a lovely time in the Rainbow Reflection Garden and planted bulbs. Our buddies will come again soon to play and get to know Little Owls.

Also this week we have been photographed by **The Selby Times**, look out for our picture in the local paper in the next few weeks!

Reminders - Please make sure long hair is tied back at school. It keeps children safe when they are playing and exploring and also keeps head lice under control. Head lice thrive in a school environment and are really common. Regular checking of your child’s hair as well as tying long hair back will stop any outbreaks.



Before school we can be busy, helping the children into school and starting the day, after school we will be available if you would like an informal chat. If you would rather you can always call or email the school office for any queries or questions.

From

Mrs Savage and Mrs Bingham