

Nursery Curriculum Letter
Spring 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter will provide you with information about the work your child will be doing this term.

Some of our themes include, 'Fun with Family and Friends', 'Good Morning, Goodnight', 'Making Music', 'People Who Help Us' and 'Swing to Spring'.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During our topic work children are encouraged to share their ideas and talk about home experiences. This will continue to develop their confidence when speaking amongst a familiar group, as well as to encourage their speaking and listening skills. Remember to ask your child lots of questions at home to develop their thinking skills, especially discussions around what they did during their school day. This can also be done in their home language.

During the topic 'People Who Help Us' the children will be learning about crossing the road safely and how to keep safe at home and around school. When learning about 'Fun with Family and Friends' the children will be discussing who is part of their family and learning about other families in their community.

We will be carrying out activities relating to Chinese New Year and Easter. It is important that children are aware of different faiths as this encourages them to value and respect one another's cultures and beliefs.

We will continue to remind the children the importance of personal hygiene and encourage them to be independent when using the toilet. Washing hands after using the toilet is essential, please remind children at home. The children are also encouraged to wash their hands when taking part in a cooking activity and after coughing or sneezing into their hands.

Literacy

We continue to place an important emphasis on Literacy. We offer many opportunities for children to read and write. The children are taught phonics on a daily basis in small, matched level learning groups. This involves children learning letter sounds. As the children become familiar with each letter sound, they will begin to blend the sounds together to read simple words eg c-a-t, h-o-t, s-u-n. They will also be encouraged to use the sounds they have learnt when

writing. The children are also taught to read 'Red words' which they learn to read by sight, for example; I, the, said, are.

We will continue to focus on name writing. Please remember when practising this at home, only the first letter of their name should be a capital letter.

The children are provided with many writing opportunities and have free access to writing materials in both our inside and outside areas, to develop their fine motor skills.

There are handwriting sessions where the children practise writing and forming letters. The children are beginning to write using many different materials such as paints, shaving foam and sand, as well as using pencils. You can reinforce this at home by encouraging children to trace sounds. when completing their homework.

Library Books and Homework

Every Wednesday you will be invited into nursery 15 minutes before the end of the session to choose a library book with your child. The children have termly challenges to complete at home. Please spend time working through the challenges with your child.

All library books are to be returned EVERY Monday. This is extremely important as children settle into school better with a specific routine.

During the week, children have access to a variety of books and story props in the classroom. There is also a story time at the end of each session. Sharing books with your child is very important. Regular story times at home and library visits can develop children's interest in books and learning to read.

Maths

The children will continue to learn about the calendar during daily Maths lessons. This includes focusing on counting, pattern, naming the months of the year and days of the week, as well as talking about the weather. We will continue to develop children's number recognition and writing numbers 1-20. This can be easily reinforced at home by counting objects and recognising numbers around them. Other Numeracy skills which will be introduced include ordering numbers, estimating, more or less and size.

Understanding the World

During the topic 'Good Morning, Goodnight' the children will learn about the difference between night and day. We will also be introducing the concept 'Opposites'. Our topic 'Swing to Spring' is based on the signs of Spring. Children

will enjoy planting seeds and watching them grow, as well as learning how to care for and look after them.

The children will use the interactive whiteboard which has a range of activities for children to develop their skills across the curriculum.

The children will continue to take part in cooking activities regularly. Through these practical activities they will develop the ability to follow simple instructions, using various cooking utensils and will develop understanding of the importance of hygiene.

In order to cover the cost of ingredients we ask for a voluntary contribution of £2.00 every term. This is greatly appreciated.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will continue to have access to a variety of creative activities, such as painting, cutting and sticking, printing and making models. 'Making Music' will allow children to explore musical instruments and discuss how sounds can change. They will also be able to make and play their own instrument.

The children will continue to have access to various role play areas and small world resources.

Physical Development

Children have continuous access to the outdoor area throughout the year. Please remember that your child needs to wear appropriate clothing according to the weather. **All uniform, including your child's outdoor clothing, should have their name on.** The children will have daily opportunities to develop their gross and fine motor skills through activities inside the classroom such as drawing, using scissors and manipulating play dough. The outdoor environment has climbing equipment, large construction, bikes and a many other resources for the children to explore.

During PE we will continue to develop their spatial awareness and develop different ways of travelling. We will be developing their ball skills such as throwing and catching, bouncing and rolling. Please remember that children should not be wearing any jewellery on these days. **If your child comes to school wearing earrings, you will be called to return in order to remove them.**

Please remember that the Nursery staff are always available at the end of the session to discuss any queries you may have.

Thank you for your support.

The Nursery Team.