

# Nursery Newsletter

## Spring 2018

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Dear Parents,

We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas holiday and we welcome you and your child back to a new fun filled term in nursery. We will be welcoming seven new children to our nursery this term and we know that the older children will help the new children to settle in quickly.

Our topic this half-term is "Toys" and next half-term we will be looking at "People Who Help Us". As you know we have two-year groups in nursery. All the children do access the same topics but work at different levels.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development / Communication and Language**

Our R.E. topics this term are "Celebrating", "Gathering" and "Growing". Through these topics we learn about celebrating in our community and at church. We will also learn about growing in love for Jesus and about the Easter Story.

We will be working on making relationships. By explaining our own knowledge and understanding, listening to what others say and asking appropriate questions the children will be encouraged to talk about their own abilities and describe themselves. We will be talking about and understanding that some actions and words can hurt others. We will be working on listening and attention skills as well.

### **Literacy and Mathematics**

In literacy we will be listening to lots of repetitive stories encouraging the children to join in. Also, we will be talking about characters and settings focusing on traditional stories. We are continuing to work on rhythm and rhyme encouraging the children to make up rhyming words.

We are continuing to recognize letters and know their sounds through the "Jolly Phonics" scheme. We are also focusing on hearing initial letter sounds in words. We will be using the "Read Write Ink" scheme to learn the correct letter formation when writing.

As always independent writing is encouraged in all areas of nursery. The older children are encouraged to write their own names on their work.

We are continuing to use the "Ten Town" programme on the computer to enhance our number work. This helps the children to recognize, order and write the numbers to ten. We will be focusing on matching numbers to quantities, more and less and separating a group of objects in different ways but knowing the number is still the same. The older children will also be working on numbers to twenty. We will be working on 3D shapes, recognizing and naming them. Also, we will be working on time and money, encouraging use of the correct language.

## **Knowledge and Understanding of the World**

Our topics this term are around the themes of “Toys” and “People Who Help Us”. Through our “Toys” topic we will be investigating how toys work, what they are made from and comparing old and new toys. The children have been encouraged to ask questions about why things happen and to offer explanations of how things work.

Through our “People who Help Us” topic we will be looking at different occupations and ways of life, focusing on the emergency services and other occupations that the children will be familiar with e.g. dentist, optician, vet, hairdressers etc. To support this, we will be setting up a Fire Station, Vets etc. in our role play areas. To further support us in this work please could you talk to your children about the job that you do so that they can share this with other children.

We will also be looking at celebrations in our country and in other countries. In particular, we will be looking at Chinese New Year through Chinese food, making dragons and lanterns and doing dragon dances.

## **Physical Development / Expressive Art and Design**

In P.E. we will be travelling with confidence and skill and negotiating spaces successfully. We will be using small apparatus showing developing increasing control by pushing, patting, throwing, catching and kicking. The children will also be encouraged to move and dance to music. We will be encouraging independent dressing and undressing for P.E.

In writing we will be encouraging holding the pencil correctly and practicing correct formation of letters. Writing is encouraged in all areas of the nursery. We encourage writing over letters until your child can copy writing.

We will be exploring the different sounds of instruments, learning new songs and using percussion instruments to play along. We will be exploring colours, making our own with powder paints and making new colours. The children will be encouraged to use their imagination, making up stories in their play when using role play and small world play.

We will be using clay to make models, manipulating, patting, rolling and molding the clay

## **Reminders**

- Please could you check that all P.E. clothes and preferably school clothes have your child’s name in them.
- Please could the older children’s parents practice their letters and number recognition with them and ensure that the sound wallets are in their bags every Monday.
- Thank you to the older children’s parents who have put information in the children’s Learning Journey books. Please could you continue to do so. If you have not started using the learning journey book yet please could you put any information about your child that would help us to complete their profile. We do value all your comments especially when you see new things at home that your child can do that we do not see at school.
- All the older children need to have Learning Journey / Homework book in their bags as we will be putting homework in them on a Friday. Please return the completed homework the next Friday.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see us to talk about them.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Groves, Mrs. Craft, Mrs. Williams and Miss McCue