

Dear Parents,

We will be using the theme of 'Winter' to introduce your child to different areas of learning. If you would like to follow this up at home here are a few ideas to try!

### Talking

- Tell your child about the things you enjoyed doing in Winter as a child
- Encourage them to see the similarities and differences between the present and past.

### Making

- Show your child how to make paper snowflakes. Although they may find the cutting out difficult they will enjoy colouring the flakes using felt pens, or adding sequins, shiny scraps or glitter to make decorations.
- Explain that although all snowflakes have six 'arms' there are no two snowflakes exactly the same, even in the thickest snowstorm. Each one is unique!

### Storytelling

- Visit the local library to look for books which feature Winter.
- Make up a story about your child enjoying a Winter adventure. These are particularly effective if continued from day to day. Encourage your child to join in, helping you to decide on the events for each exciting instalment.

### In The Kitchen

- Talk about the different types of seasonal food we enjoy in the Winter, as you prepare hot drinks or meals on a cold Winter's day. Draw attention to the smells of hot food. Why do we enjoy hot food in Winter?
- Emphasise the need to be careful when preparing or tasting hot food.

## Out and About

- Encourage your child to help the birds to survive through the Winter by putting out fresh water and scraps.
- Use opportunities to draw children's attention to signs of Winter: Winter clothes, bare trees, frosty mornings, icy puddles, icicles or the shorter days.

## What Are The Opportunities For Learning?

- To experience handling different materials
- To make up stories and develop their imagination
- To recognise seasonal changes
- To ask questions, investigate and explore