



## St Mary's Nursery, Writlington

Welcome to Autumn Term 1. We are very proud of how all the new children have settled and it's lovely to see some familiar faces too!

### Topic

The topic this term is 'Me and My Family'. This means that we can celebrate what makes all the lovely children and their families here so unique - and it gives us the opportunity for us to learn all about you, and you will learn a lot about us too!

### What does my child need during a nursery session?

- book bag
  - change of clothes to be left on peg
  - nappies/wipes if toilet training
  - bottle filled with **water only**
  - wellies
  - coat if wet, sunhat if sunny
- Please ensure all items are clearly labelled - thank you!**

### Healthy Lunches

Please ensure if your child brings a lunch to nursery, that it is a healthy, balanced lunch! We recommend sandwiches/wraps/pasta, fruit and perhaps a small tasty treat - please no big bars of chocolates or sweets!

### Phonics

This term in phonics, we are offering the children a range of different fun activities with a real focus on **building vocabulary**. Because we have two year groups in our nursery, the younger children are grouped as N1s (starting school in 2022) and the older children are grouped as N2s (starting school in 2021). The N1 group will be learning lots of songs and games to really develop their listening and attention skills. The N2s will be engaging in activities that will encourage them to develop understanding of rhythm and rhyme - which is the basis of speaking and listening. Of course, there is opportunity for all children to engage in these activities as they are fun and playful and enhance their learning.

As part of phonics we always learn a nursery rhyme each week, and this term we have been learning Our daily routine songs like *Hello Everyone*, *Days of the week*, *Tidy up Song*, *Goodbye Song*, and *Head Shoulders Knees and Toes*, *If you're Happy and you Know it*, *Wind the Bobbin Up*, *The Hokey Cokey* and *When You Want to Make a Spell*. Many of the songs also have actions, so if you'd like to support with these at home, prepare for a dance lesson too - I'm sure the children will teach you!

### Literacy

We will be sharing a number of key texts this term. The children really enjoy our 'together time' on the carpet, and so do the practitioners! The key texts this term are...*Owl Babies*, *Peace At Last*, *Dear Zoo*, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *My Body (which is a non-fiction text)*, *The Big Book of Families*, *Lucy Ladybird* and *Room on the Broom*.

### Mathematics

In Maths this term, we will be introducing new concepts to our younger members and consolidating things we have already learned. We like to count everything and we like to count as often as we can. The children are getting really good at counting how many children are in during a nursery session, and they can even count along a number line! We also learn a number song each week as this is really helpful when practising counting and sequencing. Listen out for *10 In The Bed*, *Clap Clap Hands 123*, *5 Red Apples*, *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* and *5 Little Pumpkins*.

### Topic

Our adult-directed activities are always based around your child's interests, and we plan these each week after we have reviewed the previous week's learning. These activities will also be linked to our topic wherever possible to reinforce learning. We also enhance children's learning in their free-play by having resources and challenges available to spark their interests.

### Reminders

Please remember that sessions now run from 9:05-12PM and 12-2:45. Please ensure you distance in the carpark. It is really important that you supervise your children closely as you wait in the coned area. We would like to thank you **ALL** for your co-operation at such challenging times - you have been so patient with the changes we have had to make to ensure we keep everyone as safe as possible. We love having you back at nursery!

### Outdoor Learning

Little Acorns are going to be spending more time in the great outdoors! When all the children are settled we will be venturing outside into the conservation area (on the school grounds) and taking part in 'forest school' based activities. These include stories, exploration, nature trails and maybe even a bonfire! We will soon be requesting that all children come prepared with the appropriate clothing - a waterproof coat, wellington boots and if possible, waterproof trousers. These will need to be left on their pegs. We are aiming to go outside in all weather conditions - come rain or shine!

