



Nursery Curriculum News

January 2017

Welcome back

We hope that all the children had an enjoyable holiday and that they are well rested and ready for our busy half term ahead!

Over the next few weeks, we will be doing lots of work around the stories: **Owl babies**, **'Wow' said the Owl** and **Farmer Duck**. Little Angel theatre will be visiting us on January 17th to perform **Wow said the Owl**.

Communication and Language

Children will continue to develop their language through our core books and we will carry on learning to retell familiar stories. The adults in Nursery will model talk as the children play to help encourage children's communication skills. It is really important that at home children are given plenty of opportunities to talk. Stories with illustrations are a really good way of prompting them.

We will be continuing to do phonics games using instruments and our bodies to tune in, discriminate and talk about sounds.

Physical Development

Many children have made great progress putting on their own jackets last term and we will continue to encourage this. You can help by allowing them to put on their own clothes, socks and coats at home. It can be hard to see them struggle at first but as they practice these skills it will increase their confidence and give them a sense of achievement. Children take great pride when they can do these things for themselves independently.

Personal, Social and Emotional

Children will continue to be supported to make positive relationships and friendships in Nursery. They will have plenty of opportunities to develop and practise sharing and turn taking through circle time and games. We will be encouraging all children to join in with their peers in ways that feels comfortable for them.

Mathematical development

In Numbers we give the children plenty of opportunities to continue practicing counting to 10 and beyond. For those who are ready we will be looking at number recognition and matching numeral and quantity. Children will also develop skills in representing numbers using their finger and marks on paper. The children will also look at colours alongside **'Wow' said the Owl**.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will continue to explore musical instruments and learn how sounds can be changed and combined.

Children will also make owls and farm animals and create a new role play area to support our core books.

Book Bags

If you have not already done so please can you buy a book bag from Reception so that we can send home books. We change them on Tuesdays so bring your child's bag on this day!



Literacy

The children will be given plenty of opportunities to develop their mark making skills using a range of media. They will be encouraged to give meaning to their marks and will have this modelled to them on a daily basis. For the children who are ready we will support them to begin writing their name.

Using the core books and other favourite stories we will endeavour to give all of the children a love of stories and encourage them to show and interest in illustrations and print in books.

Understanding the world

Though both our core books this half term, we will be thinking about the world around us.

Children will also be remembering and talking about significant times in their lives and we will think about how we all have different experiences.

Children will also learn about the Chinese New Year and we will be doing lots of fun activities!



Phonics Presentation

There will be a presentation about Letters and Sounds, Phase 1 and the teaching of phonics in the Nursery. The aim is to inform parents/ carers about the importance of listening and talking to your child, developing their vocabulary and learning rhymes by heart. The Letters and Sounds programme develops children's ability to tune in to sounds, listen and remember sounds and talk about sounds. By the end of the year, many children will be able to discriminate phonemes (sound units), reproduce audibly the sounds they hear and orally blend simple words.

We will send a short letter and a text home when we have finalised a date for this presentation.

Ways in which you can help:

- Help your child learn how to dress and undress independently e.g. Put their coat on by themselves and zip it up once the first part is fastened.
- Help them to develop their fine and motor skills which will help them get ready to write. This can be done through using play dough, threading, helping to cook, activities which require the pinching motion etc,
- Encourage your child to talk as much as possible. For instance, if your child holds their coat out to you, support them to use words to communicate their need.
- Read a book aloud and discuss the story events and characters. Remember, reading to your child models the skills of reading .e.g. altering your voice, pausing at punctuation, making predictions 'What do you think will happen?'
- Practice reciting numbers and counting. Begin noticing numbers in the environment .

Thank you for your support. Please remember if you need advice or support with your child's learning, please speak to any member of our team when you pick up.

