

Foundation Stage Newsletter

Spring 2018

Welcome

We hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break. We are looking forward to a new year and lots more exciting learning activities with your children.

There have been some staffing changes in Early Years:

Mrs Hardie - Reception Teacher

Mrs Page – Nursery Teacher

Mrs Wright – Senior Nursery Nurse/ Teaching Assistant

Mrs Ivory – Teaching Assistant

Mrs Jones – Teaching Assistant P.M.

We may also have DBS checked students working with us who provide further learning opportunities for the children.

Sharing your child's learning

WOW! Moments

Thank you for sharing your child's WOW! Moments with us, it's been great to see what your children have been up to at home and while out and about. They are wonderful additions to the children's learning journals as they really help paint the whole picture of your child so please keep them coming! If you need more Wow! Moment sheets, please just ask.

Teacher Availability

As previously mentioned, we recognise the very important role that you, the parents, have in your child's education and value parents and teachers working in partnership for the benefit of the children. Please don't hesitate to contact us if there is anything you would like to discuss. We are available after school finishes, once the children have left, for a short chat, and should you need to have a more in depth discussion please feel free to make an appointment.

Doors open at 8.45am and pick up is 11.45am for Nursery and 3.10pm for Reception. Please try to drop off and pick up punctually as lateness can be unsettling for children. If you or your child have any concerns please feel free to come and see your child's teacher.

Workshops and Curriculum Meetings

Thank you to all of you who attended our Phonics workshop – we hope you found it useful, as well as the accompanying phonics packs. We hope you are enjoying playing the games little and often. We welcome feedback on how your child is getting on with them.

This term there will be a writing/Literacy workshop for Reception parents, the date will be announced shortly. There will also be a 'Stay and Play session' later on in the term.

Helping your child at home

You can help your child become independent at school by teaching them skills such as how to dress themselves, use the toilet and wash hands afterwards, and how to tidy up their own toys when they have finished with them. Now that the weather is colder, it would be a great help if you could work with your child on independently zipping up coats and putting on gloves. Please could you ensure that your child has a pair of wellies in the right size.

By visiting our blog on the school website you can stay informed about what we are getting up to. You could revisit some of the learning from class while at home. Looking at the blog together is a great opportunity to discuss your child's learning with them. Parental interest is very important to young children and really motivating for them.

Library books are renewed each Friday once old books are returned. While you are reading to your child, encourage them to discuss the pictures, sequence the story and talk about what might happen next. Reading with your child is one of the most important things you can do to help their development.

What goes on in school.

The Outdoor Classroom

In the Early Years, we use both indoor and outdoor spaces **every day** to develop the children's learning, whatever the weather – there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing! Please could your child bring into school a named waterproof jacket with hood and welly boots to keep in school. Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather – sun hats for summer weather and gloves, hats and scarves when it becomes colder. **Every item must be named!**

Please ensure your child comes to school with a named water bottle which should be taken home every day to clean and renew the water.

PE

P.E. will take place on Tuesdays and Reception children should have a named PE kit in school. Please make sure your child's shoes are clearly named so that they do not become mixed up with those of another child. This will stay in school and only be sent home for washing at the end of each half term. Nursery children will not need a PE kit but will take off socks and shoes. Reception children also partake in the Daily Mile.

We need your help!

We are always grateful for Parental Helpers. If you have any special skills such as gardening or cookery or if you have some time to spare for helping to prepare resources, mending or washing dressing up clothes or similar, we would love to hear from you.

We are always on the look-out for tubs, tubes, bottle tops etc for the children to make models with. Please could you recycle some junk modelling materials our way! Thank you for your donations so far. We will let you know if we need anything specific for classroom projects.

Thank you for your donations last term for our messy play, cookery and craft donations. It has meant that the children's learning has been enhanced by wonderful hands on experiences. To continue to provide these enriching experiences we request a small contribution of between £3 and £5 this term to cover the costs of art & craft materials and cookery. Many thanks.

We learn and have fun!

Our topic this term is Winter. Nursery will be investigating artic animals, weather and seasons. Reception will be exploring the theme "If you go into the woods". We will then be learning about Traditional Tales, Chinese New Year, Easter and Spring.

We are looking forward to another fun, productive and exciting year in Foundation Stage!