

Dear parents and carers

We would like to welcome you back after the Summer holiday. Thank you once again for all the lovely gifts and cards we received, we really appreciate them. A warm welcome to our new children and their parents/carers. We are really looking forward to having your children in the nursery this academic year. Please take time to read this newsletter which tells you about what your child is learning about this term.

All about me - Over the course of the half term we will be learning about ourselves. With very young learners much of what they do revolves around them and to ease them into the nursery life, we will begin with a topic that they are familiar with and also will create a safe and personalised environment. In the second half term, we will be thinking about Light and Celebrations. We will be exploring different celebrations and festivals such as Diwali, Bonfire night and Christmas.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This is a great theme for building self-esteem, getting to know each other, growing up, thinking & talking about things children are capable of doing on their own, and most of all knowing everyone is unique and special. Throughout activities children will be encouraged to discover more about themselves first and then their families and friends in the Nursery. What makes me special? What is important about me? What things make us different? How are we like other people? What can I do that no one else can do?



Physical Development

PE and dance can lead to positive feelings of self-worth and a lifetime of physical activities. P.E or dance will take place every Friday. It is essential that your child wear their full PE kit to Nursery. Please dress your child in a T-shirt, jogging bottoms as well as trainers or plimsolls. Please note for your own child's welfare, hooped earrings are not to be worn. Only studs are allowed as stated in the school prospectus.



Literacy

'Incredible Me' book. In the book, the children will 'write' (or have us write) and draw all about what makes them incredible and different.

My name is... My favourite things are... Draw pictures to show things I like... This is my friend... My first day at nursery...



Reading

Please try to read with your child daily either the book they have chosen from Nursery or books of your own choice. There are a variety of books in the reading area of the nursery. You can change your child's book as often as you wish. All we ask is for you to write down the date, name of your child and the title of the book you have borrowed.

Mathematics

Children will learn about shapes and colours. We will be cutting out pieces of paper into triangles, big and small squares and rectangles for children to glue on to create their face for example. We will be encouraging the children to name the shapes they can see in their picture as well as in the environment around them.

Understanding the world

We will encourage the children to use magnifying glasses to look at their fingerprints. We will be having discussions about our individual differences such as hair, eye colour, height, whilst pointing out that everyone has a unique set of fingerprints. What do you notice about your fingerprints? Are they different? Are they the same? Children will learn the names of their body parts too!

ICT: Who am I?

Children will learn to use the iPad and cameras to take photographs of themselves and their friends.

Expressive Art & Design

Self Portraits – we will discuss with the children what a self-portrait is. Using mirrors, we will encourage the children to look at their faces and paint a self-portrait. We will ask them to talk about their painting and record their responses.



Things you can do at home

Talk to your child about people in their own family, show photographs of themselves when they were younger and how they have changed over the years. Visit the library to find books and stories about families.

Birthday cake/party bags– please ensure there are no nuts in the cake due to allergies. If you wish to bring in party bags for the children, please do not include any hard-boiled sweets.



We are working with the children to write their names. Names should be written with a capital letter at the start and all other letters should be lower case. To help, it will be best if they are holding their pencil near the tip as shown in Fig 4.

Diagrams showing developing pencil grasp



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4

Reminders:

- 1) Please label your child's coat & book bag **clearly**.
- 2) Biscuits – a contribution of £2 for the term to treat the children to some yummy biscuits along with their fruit.
- 3) Cooking contribution – a contribution of £3 every term towards the cooking expenses. Making simple recipes every fortnight to help children learn about measuring and concepts such as full and empty.
- 4) Half Term – Monday 21 October to Friday 25 October 2019. We close for this on Friday 18th October at 11.45 am.

We value your continued support from home with your child's learning and we are always available to speak with you if you have any concerns or issues that you wish to discuss about your child.

Kind Regards,

The Nursery Team