

# Nursery Spring One Newsletter

## Literacy (Reading & Writing)

In phonics our young children will be supported to develop an awareness of 'sounds'. This will include environmental, musical and spoken sounds. Children entering school in September will continue to link sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet. They will be encouraged to hear and say the initial sound in words as well as using some identifiable letters to communicate meaning.

Children will be encouraged to give meaning to marks as they draw and paint, and with support, hold their pencil with a comfortable grip as they write their name with the correct letter formation. Encouragement will be given to join in with repeated refrains and anticipate key events and phrases in rhymes and stories. Our older children will be encouraged to listen to stories with increasing attention and recall.

## Communication & Language (Listening & Attention/ Understanding/ Speaking)

Through a variety of interactive group activities, such as, singing familiar nursery rhymes, playing games and discussion times, encouragement and support will be given to develop and enhance children's:

- listening, attention and turn taking skills
- ability to respond to simple instructions
- use language as a powerful means of widening contacts, sharing feelings, experiences and thoughts.

## Understanding The World

Specific focuses in the Foundation Stage are very much led by the children's interests. During the first few weeks our new children's personal and social development will be supported and enhanced through our 'Settling into Nursery and Building Relationships' focus.

As part of our Winter focus, children will find out about hibernation and how they can enhance our 'Bug Hotel' to keep small animals warm during the cold weather. Children will make bird feeders and learn about organisations such as RSPB, RSPCA and WWF that help animals in times of needs.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Lots of support will be given to our new children as they settle into nursery and begin to form good relationships with their peers and familiar adults.

Christian and British Values will continue to be central to our daily lives in nursery and children will be encouraged and supported to understand and abide by the Golden Rules .

Children will be supported as they explore some of the things that make them unique, and will be encouraged to talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends and family.

## Mathematics

Through a variety of interactive activities, such as, singing counting songs and playing games, encouragement and support will be given to develop and enhance children's understanding of number and shape.

Children will recite numbers in order and count objects. They will begin to understand numbers identify how many objects are in a set and be able to match some numerals and quantity correctly. Children will be encouraged to represent numbers using fingers, objects, pictures and drawings. Children will become familiar with the names and properties of some 2D shapes. They will be encouraged to make pictures and patterns with shapes and identify shapes in the environment.

## Physical Development

Support and encouragement will continue to be given to our young children to enable them to become independent when dressing and toileting.

In mark making children will be taught how to hold and control a pencil comfortably and use it with good control to make marks and form recognisable letters e.g. letters from their name.

Children will participate in a variety of physical activities and games in and outdoors aimed at motivating them to be active and develop the skills and confidence to move freely, negotiating space and balancing safely.

## Expressive Arts & Design

Through a variety of themed and child-initiated activities, children will be supported as they:

- explore and use a variety of textures to create collages such as snowmen and penguins.
- build stories around toys
- begin to make-believe by pretending and engaging in imaginative role-play based on own first-hand experiences, as well as exploring the roles of members of our community
- introduce a narrative or storyline into their play.
- learn and perform new songs.

