



## Foundation Stage Newsletter

Spring Term 2018



Dear Parents/Carers,

12th January, 2018

Welcome back to school for the Spring term! It seems like a long time ago now but we would like to thank you for the lovely cards and gifts you gave us for Christmas – it was very kind of you. May we also wish you a very happy and healthy 2018!

This term, we shall continue to take the learning in the direction of the children's interests and extend their skills and knowledge accordingly. Whilst we react to the children's interests and fascinations most of the time, there are some topics this term that we shall be covering in Foundation. These include: Chinese New Year (mid February), Mother's Day (11<sup>th</sup> March) and Easter. We are also very excited to be receiving some little duckling eggs to hatch in school on 5<sup>th</sup> March. With the cold weather that we have been experiencing, the children have been really engaged in learning about the frost, ice and snow. We are therefore currently focusing our learning on polar regions, seasons and weather to follow their interests.

### Parental Involvement

#### **Stay and Play**

We shall be having more 'Stay and Play' sessions this term for you to attend. Thank you for all your very positive feedback after last term's sessions. We're glad you found them valuable. You are invited to stay and play on the mornings of **26<sup>th</sup> February, 28<sup>th</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup> March**. In order to balance out the number of adults in the setting at one time we ask that you just select one of the mornings and sign up next to your preferred date. Please sign-up on the school's online booking system. You will be able to sign up to a session of your choice 2 weeks before the date. When you bring your child to school on that morning, you will need to sign in at the office and then you are welcome to stay and play with your child up until 10.30am.

#### **Easter Performance**

We hope to put on a little Easter performance on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March** where all family members are welcome! 9.30 -10.15 in the hall.

#### **Coffee & Consultations**

These sessions will give you another opportunity to talk about how your child is progressing in a more informal situation with a warm drink and a biscuit! You will get the opportunity to look through your child's Learning Journey and see how they have developed throughout the year. These sessions will be held in the week of **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April**. A booking system will be available nearer to this date for you to allocate your time.

### Phonics and Action Words

We have nearly introduced all of the Jolly Phonic letter sounds in Foundation, but it is important to carry on practising these sounds every day with your child, especially the digraphs (two letters that make one sound, such as 'ai' and 'oa'). We shall recap all letter sounds this term with a focus on **blending** sounds in simple words to develop reading skills, as well as **segmenting** sounds in words (hearing the individual sounds) to aid spelling and writing. We shall start to send home a short list of words each week in your child's Sound book for your child to practise blending sounds together for reading. Please support your child with reading each word through breaking up the sounds and jot a note in their diary to say how well they have got on.

We are now beginning to learn five new Action words each week. Please go over these regularly with your child, encouraging them to try to read the word without looking at the picture or seeing the action. Once they are able to read the word this way, can they try and write it without looking at it? From next week, a new action word will be taught every day and stuck into their green book. Please ensure this book is brought to school every day. Thank you.

We also aim for your child to now be forming letters correctly and holding a pencil with the pincer grip. We would be grateful if you could support your child with this at home. Please come and see us if you would like a copy of the letter formation guide that we use in Foundation. If your child does any writing or other work at home, it would be lovely if they brought it in, to share and celebrate in school.

In numeracy this term, we shall be looking at number recognition up to twenty, developing strategies for addition/subtraction up to ten and looking at time, money, shape and measure. We are also concentrating on number formation. Please encourage your child to always form numbers starting at the top.

### **Reading Books:**

Many children in Foundation are now really enthused with taking home school reading books and are making good progress with their reading. For those who are reading their books regularly at home, we shall start sending home three books a week: These will be given to your child on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please can you sign your child's reading diary every time you have heard them read so we know that they are being heard at home. Thank you.

### **Snack:**

Our mid-morning snack costs 60p per week (per child). If you would like your child to have snack this term please complete the payment slip attached or, alternatively, you can pay online through 'parentpay'.

### **Little reminders:**

- Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school every day. They can be kept in school throughout the week and sent home on a Friday to be washed.
- PE sessions are on a Thursday and Friday for both 1W class and 1AW class. Please ensure your child has their PE kit on this day and that every item in their kit is clearly named as they go missing very easily.

### **Wanted!**

We are always in need of junk modelling materials such as cardboard boxes, tubes, egg boxes, bottle tops etc. Also, any larger pieces of scrap material for construction such as crates, spools, logs, wooden planks, tubes are always very appreciated!

Also in 1AW we are setting up an arctic role-play area and would be very grateful for any old plain white, grey or blue sheets. Any arctic soft toys that we could kindly borrow would be lovely too! Thank you.

Now that your child has settled into Foundation, please can we now ask you to say your goodbyes at the cloakroom door as it is a safeguarding issue to have unsupervised adults in school. Any concerns, no matter how small, please come and speak to us. Thank you for your on-going co-operation and support.

The Foundation Team

Mrs White    Mrs Atkinson    Miss Webb

### **Foundation Diary Dates for the Spring term:**

<b><i>Duckling eggs arrive</i></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b><i>Stay &amp; Play sessions</i></b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> February, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2<sup>nd</sup> March.</b>
<b><i>Easter Performance</i></b>	<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-10.15 in the school hall.</b>
<b><i>Coffee &amp; Consultation afternoons</i></b>	<b>Week beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>

SNACK PAYMENT: Spring term

Name of child: .....

Please delete as appropriate:

I enclose £7.20 for 12 weeks of snack this term / I have paid online through parentpay.

Signed: .....

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