

St Charles R.C. Primary School. Foundation Stage Home Information Letter.

Class: Nursery Spring 1 2017

Investigative theme: Weather/Animals/ Toys

Dear Parents/Carers

The children all seem pleased to be back at Nursery, they were so happy to see each other! They have quickly settled back into their routine and are coming into Nursery in the morning by themselves, they are very proud of this so please support and encourage your child to be independent.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Christmas celebrations and festivities. We hope that you enjoyed the Nativity play and we are sure you will agree that all the children are exceptional. They are still singing the songs!! Thank you for all the lovely Christmas cards and presents, it was very kind and thoughtful of you.

The children have a big input into the Nursery planning and activities so as you can imagine it constantly changes! However here are a few notes just to give you an idea of what we will be covering this Spring half term.

RE This half term we will be 'Getting to know Jesus'

- Know that Jesus has a great love for each one of us and think of ways in which we can show our love for Jesus.
- Hear that Jesus cured people who were ill & think of ways in which we can show our love for people who are ill.
- Begin to know that Jesus showed that he was the son of God at the wedding at Cana and begin to think about what this means for us.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will encourage the children to play with everybody and make new friends so that everybody feels included. The children will be supported in developing positive relationships by challenging negative behaviour and actions towards their peers. We will teach children to use and care for materials and then trust them to do so independently, demonstrate concern and respect for others, living things and the environment. We will anticipate the best from each child and be alert for evidence of their strengths. Children thrive in an atmosphere where achievement is valued and encouraged.

CL/ Literacy We will listen to the children and take account of what they say, we will talk to them about what they have been doing and help them to reflect upon and explain events. When singing or saying rhymes we will talk about the similarities in the rhyming words, make up alternative endings and encourage the children to supply the last word of the second line, for example 'Hickory Dickory tweet the mouse ran down the street.... We will read familiar stories that the children already know, pausing at intervals to encourage them to read the next word. The children will discuss the characters in books and predict outcomes or think of alternative endings and also compare the feelings of the characters with their own experiences. The children will be encouraged to focus on meaningful print such as their names or a book title in order to discuss similarities and differences between symbols. Children will be helped to understand what a word is by using names and labels and by pointing out words in the environment and in books. The children will be supported in recognising and writing their own names and they will be encouraged to use their own developing phonic knowledge.

Maths Support children to understand and use number language, for example, 'one', 'two', 'three', 'lots', 'hundreds', 'how many?' and 'count', in a variety of situations, we will model and encourage use of mathematical language by, for example, asking questions such as, "How many saucepans will fit on the shelf. The children will be encouraged to understand that one thing can be shared, for example, a pizza. Using pictures and objects to illustrate counting songs,

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rhymes and number stories will benefit all children and be particularly supportive to children learning English as an additional language. We will look at shape, space and measure encouraging the children to talk about the shapes they see and use and how they are arranged. The environment will be organised to foster shape matching, for example, pictures of different bricks on containers to show where they are stored.

Understanding of the World

The children will be supported in the use of a range of construction materials, including construction kits containing a variety of shapes, sizes and ways of joining. We will look at ICT, encouraging children to click on different icons to cause things to happen in a computer program. The children will observe changes in the environment, for example, through the seasons and the passing of time, they will be encouraged to use the language of time in conversations, for example, 'past', 'now' and 'then'. We will introduce appropriate vocabulary that will enable the children to express their feelings about special events, ask questions and use language that describes emotions, for example, 'sad', 'happy', 'angry', 'lonely'. We will use group times to share events in children's lives listening carefully and asking questions that show respect for children's individual contributions.

Expressive Art and Design

The children will be provided with appropriate materials to extend their thinking through involvement in their play. The children will be introduced to a wide range of music, painting and model making. We will support children in thinking about what they want to make, the processes that may be involved and the materials and resources they might need. We will make suggestions and ask questions to extend children's ideas of what is possible, for example, "I wonder what would happen if..." The children will be told stories based on fiction and non-fiction and encouraged to 'act out' the stories in drama or role-play sessions.

Physical Development

The children will listen to music to create moods and talk about how people move when they are sad, happy or angry and we will look at the ideas that children suggest to make things fair. They will be encouraged to participate in physical activities and notice the changes in their bodies after exercise. We will assess children's skill development, deciding if it is exploratory and experimental or repetitive, and whether they are ready for a new challenge. We are focusing on creating opportunities for moving towards independence, for example hand-washing, meal times and in the bathroom. We will support children in making decisions for themselves about choices of food, clothing and personal hygiene.

General comments

Please help your children to be independent by encouraging them to put their own coat on, use a knife and fork correctly, to wipe their own nose, go the toilet independently and most importantly washing their hands.

If you have any early years 'comics' that you

could donate to Nursery to help with developing reading skills it be much appreciated.

Gentle Reminder!

1. Some children do not have any spare clothes available.
2. This can cause unnecessary distress.
3. Every Nursery child needs a set of spare clothes.
4. Please remember the weekly £1 Nursery Fund donation

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement

Happy New Year to you all!

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Kind Regards

Mrs Starkie,

Mrs Copakova,

Mrs Meek