

To Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to all our children. As you are aware we are still trying to keep FSU/school as Covid safe as possible, please bear with us as we continue to operate within Covid guidelines.

One of our main areas of focus in Nursery is communication and language, we encourage the children's development in this area through all sorts of techniques including developing a love of reading. In Nursery children are allowed to borrow our books from class and take them home. They can swap them daily if they wish. We just ask that if your child would like to lend books that you buy them a school book bag from the school office, which enables the children to keep the books safe and clean. Also do join the public library or have a look on youtube which has a vast amount of videos of people reading picture books.

Our new topics this term are *Our World* where we will learn about weather and seasons and developing our eco awareness and thinking about how we can make positive changes that make an impact on the world around us. Then after half term our topic is: *Magic Carpet Rides* where we will look at places around the world as well as our own past experiences. We will also spark our imaginations by learning about new exciting places we would like to visit in the future. So get ready for a magical carpet adventure!

Our phonics work this term will be focused on alteration and listening out for initial sounds. We will be playing a lot of games to encourage the children to listen out for initial sounds in words, identify the sounds they can hear. Listening skills are very important in developing phonological awareness (pre reading skills) listening and identifying phonemes (the smallest unit of sounds) is also a skill that takes time and practise to develop. Alongside playing lots of phonic games in Nursery we also read lots of stories (such as cross the river and guess what is the in bag) as well as singing Nursery rhymes.

If you would like to help your child at home with their pre reading how about: making a sound basket with toys/objects that start with the same sound and adding in an odd one out, can your child spot the odd toy? Or sound out simple words (constant vowel constant words) i.e. where is the c.a.t? Get your b.a.g. etc. If you would like more ideas on how to support your child's learning, please feel free to come and chat to me.

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Ivey.

Summer Term 2022

Our topics are...

Our World and Magic Carpet Rides

Dates to remember

Bank Holiday 2nd May. Half Term Holiday 30th May - 6th June. Term ends 20th July.

Helping your child

- Self-help skills; encouraging your child to get dressed and undressed on their own.
- Enjoying a good book together, making the most of some quiet time at bedtime with a cosy story together
- Boredom buster games such as eye spy with numbers/shapes/rhymes/colours
- Encouraging family times such as meal times. By asking your child questions to develop their communication and language skills. Encourage answering in sentences rather than single words.
- Play turn taking games and encourage sharing with their peers to develop personal, social and emotional skills.
- Have a look at www.booktrust.org.uk

Donations

Donations of tissues, flour, salt, oil and food colouring are always very much needed and appreciated. We are always in need of junk modelling boxes (all the cardboard boxes, plastic pots etc. that you normally recycle). Also any old fabric, wool, gift bags, wrapping/wall paper & old cards.

Mathematical development

This term we are continuing to develop our mathematical skills through focusing on number and shape, space and measure. We are doing this through songs, games, imaginative role play as well as adult directed activities. In number we are looking at: using number language accurately and spontaneously in play. Practising reciting numbers fluently in order to 10. Knowing that numbers tell you how many objects you have in a set. Starting to represent numbers by counting on fingers/making marks on paper and sometimes matching numerals and quantities correctly. In shape, space and measure we are looking at: encouraging children to take an interest in shapes and space by playing with shapes/blocks and making arrangements with them. To start to notice and spot shapes in the world around them. We will have a focus on pattern. Also, to use positional language in their conversations such as; in, behind, next to, on top etc.

Communication and Language

It is so nice to have the opportunity to see old & new friends this term. In Nursery one of our Prime Areas of development is Communication and Language and that goes hand in hand with the two other Prime Areas of learning (Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development). So how do we encourage children to chat and communicate effectively? By focusing on the three Characteristics of Learning 1. Playing and Exploring 2. Active learning (being motivated/developing concentration) 3. Creating and Thinking Critically (problem solving/having their own ideas). We aim to create a friendly, inclusive but a positively challenging learning environment in Nursery that stimulates awe and wonder resulting in the children's communication and language skills developing.