

**Spring 2019**

Dear Parents and Carers

This email will provide you with information about the coming term. Shortly you will be able to find a topic map on the school website outlining the topics areas for learning this term.

### **Communication and Language**

There will be an emphasis this term on further developing language and speech. Through our topic sessions we will be encouraging the children to engage in discussion and use a range of vocabulary and self expression. Children will have opportunities to ask and answer questions relating to our topic, which will inform our planning and form the basis of our learning. We will also be widening the children's understanding of discussion by doing more group work.

### **Reading and Writing**

This term we will continue to work our way through the Read, Write Inc. programme. The focus this term is the application of phonological knowledge in independent writing. The children will continue to develop their sight vocabulary – to read short un-decodable words such as 'the', 'go', 'I'. The children know these words as 'red words.' We will be continuing to focus on the correct letter formation of lower case letters. Name writing (first and surname) will be an ongoing focus throughout this term. It is important that the children practise writing their full names at home.

Once a child has begun to blend, reading books will be changed regularly. Each child will receive a reading record book for you to record comments. It is essential that children read every day in order to develop their confidence and understanding as readers. These reading books will be changed on **Mondays, Wednesdays** and **Fridays** on the condition that an adult at home has read and signed the reading record.

### **Maths**

The children will continue to focus on number recognition, counting in order and counting sets of objects. We will do work on 2D and 3D shape as well as beginning to understand simple written subtraction and acting this out practically. We will be looking at finding one more and one less as well as investigating length and height.

### **Understanding the World**

The children will have free access to construction resources and will be encouraged to design, build and construct various models relating to the themes. We have a wide range of technology to enhance the children's learning and will be beginning to teach about simple programming. Cooking will continue to be a weekly event and linked to our topic.

### **Physical Development.**

This term, the children will begin their dance lessons, which will take place on **Wednesdays**. Children will still need their PE kit on Fridays for multi sports.

Please note: Outdoor play is fundamental to the children's physical development. We encourage the children to explore our outdoor area where they have access to learning opportunities that are not always available in the classroom environment.

We will continue to use our wonderful garden space at Copleston Road. The children will visit once a week, Cotton Class on **Monday** afternoon and Linen class on a **Thursday** afternoon. On these days please make sure your child has appropriate outdoor footwear and a waterproof jacket. In wetter weather if you wish to send welly boots or an all-in-one waterproof suit you are more than welcome to. If your child is attending our after school club, Owls, on their garden day a change of uniform (including clean shoes) is advisable.

We will continue to encourage the children to recognise the importance of keeping healthy in a variety of ways, through diet, physical exercise and hygiene. Please encourage your children to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet at home.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

Children will develop their representational skills through free painting and drawing as well as through observational work. They will be using different media to experiment with colour and texture.

Our children will continue to participate in both music and specialist singing lessons. The children will have opportunities to experiment with finding different sounds that can be made with a selection of musical instruments from different groups. They will also be learning to match movements to music.

There will be continued access to imaginative play areas, including the role play area and small world resources including the train set, animals, garage and underwater world.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Through carpet times we will be focusing on following rules and working together as a team. We will be celebrating the festivals, Chinese New Year, Easter, Mother's Day, National Storytelling week, and CRAZE week. Children will be participating in activities relating to these. It is important that children are aware of different faiths as this encourages them to value and respect one another's cultures and beliefs. Immersed in all curriculum areas there is a focus on sharing, turn-taking, personal hygiene and independence.

It was fantastic to see so many of you uploading photographs to Tapestry of learning and special times at home during the last term. We would love for this to continue moving forward as it benefits both individuals and the class as a whole to share these moments.

### **Reminders**

- It is vital that you let the school know if you are unable to collect your child from school. You can do this by speaking to the class teacher, phone or email to inform us of who will be collecting your child.
- Please ensure that your child brings their book bag to school every day along with their reading book and reading record book.
- Please ensure that all items of clothing, including PE Kits are **clearly labelled** with your child's name.
- Please remember that staff are always available before and after school to answer any questions.

Kind regards,  
Miss Hogg and Ms Cagney