



# NURSERY NEWSLETTER

## Spring 1 Half Termly Newsletter from your Nursery Team

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

We hope you all had a wonderful family Christmas time and would like to wish you and your family a very happy new year. It sounds like Santa was very busy visiting our Nursery children! We are looking forward to a fun half term continuing with our great learning together!

### *Nursery is a full and busy place!*

We would like to welcome all our new families to our Nursery community. We are thrilled you have joined us. It is important, more than ever, that we work together to ensure everyone stays happy and safe. Here are just a few ways we can do this:

- Please encourage children to undo their own coats and put their hats and gloves in their pockets before they enter Nursery. As you can imagine, with 35 children this can take a big chunk of valuable learning time!
- Velcro shoes where ever possible
- Label all items of clothing, this will ensure a swift return!
- Please no toys from home– children get upset when others bring things from home as they have been told they are not allowed. No toys mean no unnecessary upsets.
- Please only bring essential bags, sadly we do not have space for rucksacks.
- Please take water bottles out of lunch boxes and put them into the grey boxes on the lunch trolley. This ensures we can move the boxes straight onto the hydration station ready for the children to access freely.

*We really appreciate your time and support with the above. Small things have a really big impact on the childrens day and we want them to be as happy as possible!*



### *Making friends*

This half term we are learning to be peace-makers, linking to our school values – show respect and be generous. We have worked hard to learn to play together so now we are going to find solutions to conflicts e.g. Not everyone can be the bus driver in the game so how will we sort this? We will also:

- Remember rules without needing an adult to remind us
- Develop appropriate ways of being assertive
- How to take turns, my turn your turn

### *RE*

Our topic this half term is 'Celebrating.' We will be talking about the times our children have gathered with their families to celebrate special occasions such as their own and other's birthdays. We will think about celebrations experienced in church. We will then move onto 'gathering', looking at the special features in church and how we celebrate mass. We look forward to giving the children the opportunity to talk to Father Philipp and give him a flower arrangement we have made for him to take back to Church. Please encourage your child to look at paintings, statues and the altar area in church during family visits.



### *We love reading*

Our bed time story library has been a huge success - we just love toast and stories on a Thursday afternoon.



This half term we will be sharing stories from a long long time ago, starting with my two favourite traditional tales – The Gingerbread man and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. We will use lots of key vocabulary e.g. 'once upon a time' and 'they lived happily ever'. Along with books, we will begin to use story maps and retell the stores from memory. We will complete lots of activities that encourage us to talk about the stories and unpick the morals, conflict and resolutions. We will then go on to explore traditional tales from Africa. We will investigate a world map and locate a variety of countries. If you have any stories that you particularly enjoyed when you were younger, we would LOVE to hear them, either by joining us virtually for a story time or sharing a book.



## Writing

The children have become confident writers. On a daily basis, our writing basket is full of letters, messages, cards and lists. It's

superb! To build on this, we are looking at the marks we are making in greater depth. We will focus on getting a strong pencil grip and how to correctly write the letters in our names. We will also be spending time drawing with increasingly complexity and detail. Such as representing the characters from our stories. We will also begin to look at initial sounds of words 'b for biscuit, looks like this'

## Magical Maths

We are going to learn some super skills this half term. We are going to get our thinking caps on to construct using a variety of media. The gingerbread man will need a boat and a bridge and the Three Billy Goats need new homes. We will select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc.

Our key rhyme for this half term is:

- 5 current buns in a bakers shop



We will learn the rhyme really well and explore lots of counting skills including subitising and careful counting up to 5. We will spend time exploring numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numerals up to 5. At the end of the half term we would like to visit the bakery on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February**. Any volunteers to help would be greatly appreciated. We will be leaving after registration at 9 am.

## Locations and maps link

This half term is a perfect opportunity to explore maps and locations. We will follow a map of our school to find Mrs Toners office, a map of our community, to locate the bakery and a map of the world to locate to locate Africa.



We are thrilled Mrs Smart (Mrs Smartie!) and Mrs Varga have joined the Nursery the Team. We welcome them to our Nursery community.



## When I grow up I want to be...

As we will be exploring many aspects of school, our community and the world. We will be looking at many different occupations. If you would like to talk to the children about your occupation then we will be looking for people to interview. Please speak to Mrs Dickson or Mrs Knowles if you would like to inspire the children and talk about your job. To celebrate all the information we have found out, we are going to have a 'When I grow up I want to be...' day on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023**. We would like children to come dressed as someone they would like to be when they are older.



## Getting our groove on!

We love to get the disco ball out and have a good dance! During our PE sessions, we are going to skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues. We are going to develop our dance skills and be able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music.



## Funky fingers

We will be making lots of puppets for our story telling stations, so our fine motor skill is to develop our cutting skills. We will learn how to use safe scissors and not just snip paper but also to cut around a template.



Dates for your diary:

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023** Chinese New Year – Wear red to Nursery

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023** Visit to the bakery – Volunteers please

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023** Come dressed as what you would like to be when you are older!