



# Foundation Stage Newsletter

## Term 3 - January 2024

### Traditional Tales

#### Communication and Language

We will work on:

- \* Using language well, thinking about what we want to say.
- \* Developing our language through a wide range of story books and being able to use this to retell stories that we know well.
- \* Begin to be able to make up our own stories.
- \* Building up our vocabulary linked to the different topics we are learning about.
- \* Being a good listening partner - taking turns to listen and talk.
- \* Being able to ask 'how' and 'why' questions to find out more information about things that interest us.

#### Literacy

We will continue to be introduced to a variety of books and stories. We will be able to talk about authors and illustrators that we are familiar with.

We will continue to learn 4 new phonemes per week and practise writing them, both in the daily phonics session and at other times during the day. This term we will be revisiting all the sounds we have learnt so far and be introduced to phase 3 sounds, which include digraphs such as 'ai', 'ee' and 'oa'. We will continue to practise blending sounds to read and make words.

We will be learning tricky words during our phonics sessions and will revisit these during the day and practise them at home.

We will practise writing our names and other simple words using the phonemes we have learnt.

We will have daily handwriting sessions to look at correct letter formation.

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will work on:

- \* Being able to talk about our own feelings and those of others and be able to regulate our behaviour accordingly.
- \* Being able to work well with a partner or others in a team and will use kind words to encourage other people.
- \* Being able to talk about what we enjoy doing and things that we find tricky.
- \* Always remembering to follow our School Values.
- \* Building up our resilience and being able to persevere even when we find things challenging. The Jigsaw theme for this term is Dreams and Goals.

#### Mathematics

We will continue to practise counting objects and actions 1:1 up to 10.

We will practise counting by rote to 10 and beyond.

We will use stories, rhymes, and games to explore the vocabulary of addition and subtraction.

We will **closely** investigate numbers to 8, including the number, zero:

Subitising - what do you see and how do you see it?

Comparing groups and quantities.

Composition - finding different ways to make numbers to 8.

We will work on the numbers that are 'one more and one less' than a number.

We will continue to explore the language of time through routines such as our daily routine washing line and look at the days of the week.

We will investigate capacity and mass through practical activities and will compare objects and amounts.

#### Physical Development

We will work on:

- \* A range of activities, including building using large loose parts resources and the big wooden blocks.
- \* Ball skills including throwing, catching, kicking, using a bat, aiming at a target.
- \* Moving confidently in a range of ways.
- \* Doing our coat up and putting on gloves independently.
- \* A range of fine motor activities, including funky fingers, dough disco and making pictures/patterns.
- \* More consistently using the correct pencil grip
- \* Forming letters correctly.
- \* Holding scissors correctly and using them effectively to cut out simple shapes.

#### Understanding the World

We will look at winter weather changes, exploring frost, ice and snow. We will carry out experiments to explore how things change when they are frozen/melt.

We will look at different places around the world - looking at photos, maps, books, atlas, and books.

We will look at how we keep warm in the winter and how people used to keep warm in the past.

We will look at how the environment is different in different places around the world and the animals that live there.

We will continue to build on our knowledge and experiences through our weekly Forest School session.

We will find out how the Lunar New Year is celebrated.

#### Message from the team

Welcome back to Term 3, we hope you have had a restful break. We are very excited to be starting this term with our new topic of 'Traditional Tales'. We will be sharing stories such as The Gingerbread Man, Little Red Riding Hood, and Goldilocks & the Three Bears. To celebrate this topic, we have arranged for The Booster Cushion Company to come in and perform the story 'Old McDonald and the Three Pigs'. On this day the children will also be able to dress up as their favourite character from one of the Traditional tales if they would like to.

#### Reminders

Please remember to bring in your child's book bag each day. Books will be changed every Tuesday and Friday. Phonics books will be issued on a Friday and returned on a Monday. We will continue to send home Tricky words so that you can support at home. Homework will be set every Friday at 4pm on Tapestry under the 'activities' tab.

#### Diary Dates

2<sup>nd</sup> Feb Number Day-dress up in your favourite number costume/outfit

6<sup>th</sup> Feb PTA disco

7<sup>th</sup> Feb - Booster Cushion Theatre Company

7<sup>th</sup> Feb Dress up as your favourite traditional tale character

7<sup>th</sup> Feb Artist afternoon

9<sup>th</sup> Feb last day of term

#### Expressive Arts and Design

We will continue to build using 3D recycled materials, exploring different ways of joining them together.

We will use a range of tools, including shaving brushes and combs to apply and mix paint. We will combine colours to find the correct shade. We will look at the artwork of Mondrian - exploring shape and pattern.

We will carry out a range of activities linked to the Lunar New Year, including Chinese writing, lanterns, dragon puppets and making red money envelopes. We will listen and dance to Chinese music and look at resources including clothing, pictures, books and other artefacts.