



## Autumn 2

### Half Term Information for Parents

### Early Years

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful break and are ready for a busy and sparkly half term leading up to Christmas! This information sheet tells you a little about our Early Years setting and about the theme being followed for this half term. We hope that you find it useful.

**Theme:** Autumn 2 -Let's Celebrate!

#### **Continuous Provision in the Early Years**

Continuous provision covers the areas that are available to children most of the time.

#### **Construction area**

Here children have a variety of large and small building toys such as large foam bricks, wooden blocks and Duplo. This area is always popular with some very creative and imaginative models and buildings being built. Teamwork is encouraged and naturally lots of interaction between peers occurs as well as some great language development. Clipboards and paper are often available, so children can draw their models. Half termly enhancements-photos of buildings to try to construct, building rockets, building a chimney for father Christmas

#### **Small World area**

In this area children can use resources such as trains or farm animals to create their own games and role play. Half termly enhancements-providing different scenery to inspire children to create different stories

#### **Home Corner**

This is always a busy area where children act out experiences they have had or seen such as washing up, helping with the baking or laying the table for a meal, we even had 2 children planning a camping trip! As with all areas of Early Years imagination, creativity and Communication and language are developed in this area. Half termly enhancements-making a fireplace in the house for Christmas, party props to encourage children to act out celebrations, different celebration foods to prompt role play.

#### **Sensory area**

In this area children are provided with different materials or objects to explore. We also have a light table for children to use. Half termly enhancements- We will explore the colours tastes and smells linked to the different festivals that we will be learning about.

#### **Water area**

Children have access to a range of containers and tools to explore in the water tray. Here children can begin to understand capacity and the language of capacity such as full, half full and empty as well as making up their own imaginative games. Half termly enhancements- coloured, sparkly water

#### **Dough table**

Dough is a great resource to help develop children's fine motor skills and hand strength to later support writing. This term we will begin weekly Dough Disco sessions to further develop co-ordination and the muscles in children's hands and arms.

#### **Book area**

Stories are read to children daily. In the book area children might choose to look at a book on their own or with a friend. Children are encouraged to hold a book correctly and begin to discuss books-characters, events, what might happen next. Half termly enhancements-books around celebrations and Christmas

#### **Writing area**

A very popular area! Children have access to a variety of writing tools and equipment including clip boards, whiteboards and paper. Half termly enhancements-templates to make Diwali and Christmas cards, firework shaped paper, writing lists to father Christmas, writing recipes for making reindeer food

### **Maths area**

Children are provided with a variety of resources for number, sorting, counting, practical addition and subtraction, measuring and shape activities. This half term we will also be introducing 3D shapes, discussing routines and time, and beginning to understand money.

**Read Write Inc-** All children will participate in Read Write Inc activities, the phonics scheme we use within school. Children will work at different levels-learning the Read Write Inc Pictures, letter sounds, using the letter sounds in their writing, using their knowledge of sounds to read words and sentences.

**Our books this half term:** Sparks in the Sky, Laura's star, How to catch a star, Oliver's star, Day Monkey Night Monkey, Goldilocks and the Three bears-linked to daily routines.

**Our theme this half term-** Let's Celebrate! We will explore Bonfire night, Remembrance Sunday, Diwali and Christmas. Children will discuss photos about these different celebrations and use this to create different art work. We will talk about children's experiences of celebrations.

We will also look at how to be kind to our friends during Anti Bullying week and celebrate Children in Need day on the 16<sup>th</sup> November.

### **How can you help?**

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn-8:45 for Nursery, 8:50 for Reception.
- This half term we will be getting ready for our Christmas performance so please make sure your child is in school to learn words and the songs.
- We always enjoy hearing about your child's achievements, big and small! Trying a new food, climbing to the top of the slide in the park, sleeping all night in their own bed. ...
- We are really enjoying the observations that you are putting onto Tapestry. We look at these with the children and share them with the class. Please keep up the good work!

### **Class Reminders**

Please help us by naming clothing, particularly jumpers and coats.

We will be outside every day so your child needs a warm coat.