



# Nursery at New Hartley First School

## Spring 1

### What a Wonderful World



Welcome back! We hope you've had a lovely Christmas holiday full of festive fun! This half term we are learning about the wonderful world that we live in. We are learning where we live, and developing awareness that there are other countries, thinking about where they are and how we could get to other countries.

#### Dates to remember:

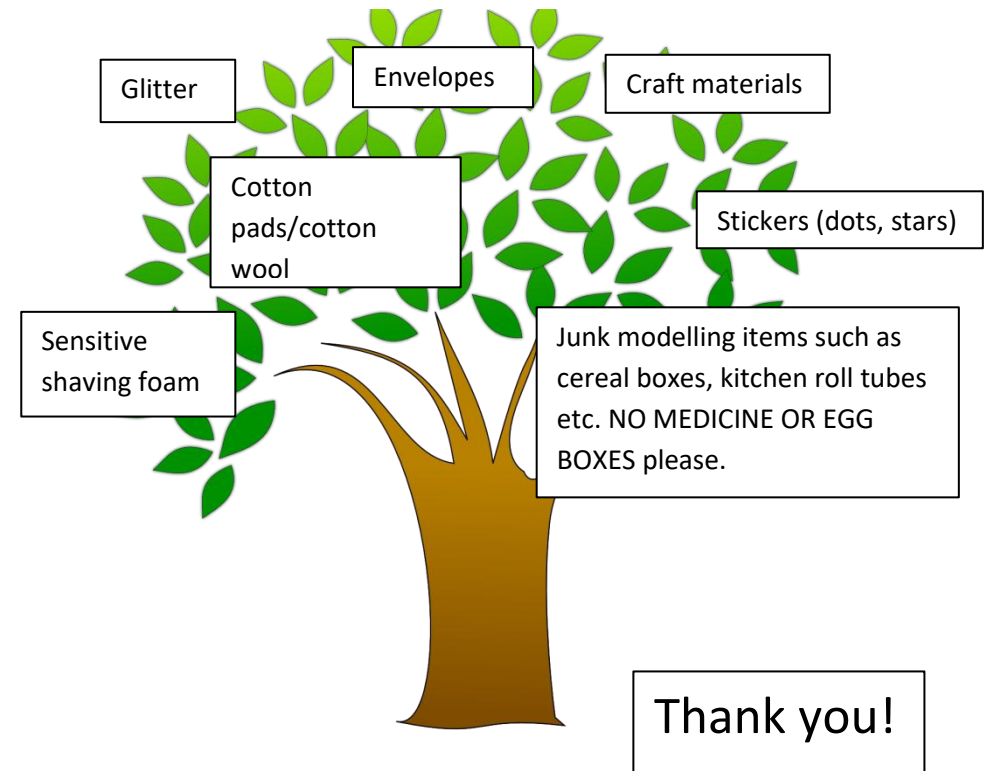
End of half term – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

*The idea of our little wish tree is to let you know at home some of the small items we use a lot of at school and if you could occasionally add them to your shopping list or collect them at home and bring them in we would be very grateful. There is no pressure to donate. Thank you.*

Remember warm winter coats, hats and gloves.  
All named!



## Our Wish Tree



### Early Years Curriculum

In Nursery the children follow the Foundation Stage Curriculum which is supported by Development Matters. The curriculum is split into 7 areas of learning.



Thank you for engaging with Tapestry. It is a great way to keep up to date with what your child has been doing at Nursery. We will continue to keep in touch on it with little homework tasks too.

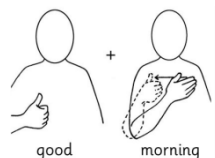
### **Prime Area – Communication and Language**

This half term, we will revisit the nursery rhyme *'The Wheels on the Bus'*, linking it to our topic of travelling to different places.

We will also continue to develop the children's ability to listen carefully to stories, talk about them, and recall their favourite parts.

In addition, we will be focusing on helping the children understand and answer "why" questions, such as *Why is that your favourite part?* or *Why do you like to play outside?*

Bruno and Daisy the bears will be continuing their adventures each week. They will continue to go home with a different child each week, along with a book in which you can add pictures, draw or write about what you got up to. There is no pressure on what needs to go in the book as such, but more focus on creating a talking point for the children to be able to discuss clearly and confidently what they got up to, whilst other children are working on listening skills, and waiting their turn.



We continue to use Makaton signs for the days of the week, saying good morning as well as learning topic related signs.

### **Prime Area – Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Our main focus this half term is to explore empathy. Being able to use the word in context and understand the meaning. In addition, linking to our theme of 'Our Wonderful World' we will be talking about whether we are all the same around the world, or different – do we dress the same? Do we eat the same things? Why/why not?



We will continue to build relationships with each other and building upon those friendships we've made to ensure they are positive.

We will be reinforcing and remembering the rules of our classroom and school.

### **Prime Area – Physical Development**

PE Days – continue to be **Wednesday** and **Friday** please wear your house coloured t-shirt with shorts, leggings or joggers, trainers or sand shoes too. **NO LACES!**



We will be doing Yoga in the hall on Wednesday, with our yoga teacher Suzy, and PE with our active future coach Liam on a Friday.

Fine motor activities are always massively important. We are having a big focus on pencil grip this half term, to ensure we have a strong hold as we begin to write our names.

We continue our daily tasks on this such as...

- Dough Disco
- Threading activities
- Peg activities
- Loose/Small parts play
- Squiggle whilst we Wiggle
- Cutting
- Tweezers and pom poms
- Pencil grip



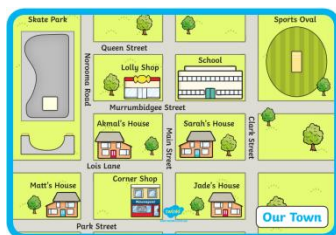
Any fine motor activities you can be doing at home are a great help too!

### Specific Area – Literacy



In literacy, we are focusing on understanding where to start reading within a story or on a page.

Linking to our theme this half term, we will also be writing on maps, making our own routes and writing out tickets for things like trains and planes.



We will continue or work on ensuring we are holding our pencils correctly, to allow us to make a start at our name writing.

### Specific Area – Mathematics

We will extend our knowledge of numbers to 5, ensuring that we can rote count, and touch count from 1-5 confidently. We will begin to understand subitising, looking at numbers 1-3 and identifying what the word means. We are also learning that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells us how many there are in total.



We will be able to identify 2D shapes (rectangle, square, triangle, circle, oval), and explain their properties using language such as sides, corners, straight and flat, and sort objects into groups of our own criteria (animals/vehicles).

We will also have an introduction to measure, by using scales to determine whether things are heavy/light.

### Specific Area – Knowledge and Understanding of the World

We will continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people – we will do this by thinking about our likes and dislikes of travelling and discussing those that have travelled to a different place, and those that haven't. This will help us to know that there are different countries, and link this to a personal understanding by discussing holiday photos.

We are going to be exploring and talking about forces, in particular experimenting with floating and sinking in the water tray. Does a boat float or sink? And continuing this understanding of forces that we can feel by using cars on a ramp, do they go fast or slow? How can we change the speed?

This half term we will continue with our hands on exploration – exploring the season (Winter) in a variety of different ways. Finally we will be investigating maps, we will all be able to describe a familiar route, and discuss routes and locations.

### Specific Area – Expressive Arts and Design

This term we will be engaging in lots of different creative activities in our everyday continuous provision. We will be having a big focus on junk modelling, but now breaking it down to understand different components of junk modelling, such as how to join items together (glue/cellotape/masking tape), where to find and access materials that we need within the classroom, and making creations linked to our topic, such as planes.

We will be looking at painting and mixed media, through means such as finger painting, outdoor painting and painting to music. Whilst continuing to concrete our knowledge of colours, and be able to identify many colours that we can see around us.

In music we are looking at and exploring a range of instruments and listening to music associated with different parts of the world.



### Stories focused on in Nursery this half term are



Regular adults in Nursery are:

Miss Elliott, Miss Lamb, Mrs Gates

Other adults you might see:

Mrs Nelson, Mrs Thompson, Mrs English, Mrs Fielding, Mrs Watson

Please continue to keep check of Tapestry, lots of exciting and important things are uploaded to there and your engagement is hugely appreciated.