

## **Spring Term 1**

### **FSU Curriculum Newsletter**

Dear Parents/carers,

We have had a fantastic start to our new term in the FSU and are enjoying getting stuck into our new topic 'Let's Investigate!' When we returned to school after the holidays, we spent some time exploring 'Winter' and this week moved onto our first key text of the term: 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. This is a fantastic book which offers so many learning opportunities and the children's enthusiasm for finding out about bears has been wonderful. As the term progresses, we will continue our investigations by exploring dinosaurs, zoo animals and wherever the children's interests lead us!

Other key texts for the term will include fiction and non-fiction books around these topics. If the children have any favourite books around these themes at home, which they would like to share with our class, please feel free to bring them to school as we would be delighted to include them into our story time.

#### **Phonics**

Our Reception children are continuing to make great progress with their reading and writing. This term they will learn together in small groups, at a level which is very closely matched to their current reading ability.

Congratulations to those children who have completed their bronze bookmark, earned by consistently reading at home during the Autumn term, and thank you to their parents/carers who have supported them. We ask that you set aside time for your Reception child to read with you every evening if at all possible.

The Nursery children will continue to work on developing their speaking and listening skills by taking part in a range of phonics games and activities. As we move through the term, there will be a focus on rhyming - this is something which you can encourage and support at home.

#### **Maths**

Our younger children will continue to develop their counting skills and recognition of numbers and quantities. Playing board games with dominoes, dice and spinners at home is a great way to support them with this, as well as providing lots of real-life opportunities to practice counting skills. This half term the emphasis will be on numbers 3, 4 and 5.

Our maths learning for Reception children this half term will begin with 'Alive in 5'. The children will become authors and illustrators of their own numbers

books. We will then spend some time measuring mass and capacity before moving on to 'Growing 6,7,8'.

### **Art**

The children take part in arts, crafts and creative activities everyday as part of our Continuous Provision. These are usually linked to our topic and/or weekly story book. In addition to this, our Reception Class take part in an Art project each half term with a particular skills focus and is often inspired by the work of an Artist. This half term the children will be working on a digital media project 'Who am I?' inspired by Mike Barratt. Parents of Reception children will receive a separate e-mail containing information about how you can support them with this by sending in photos and pictures for them to incorporate into their artwork.

### **Social and Emotional Development**

Our school value this half term is 'Perseverance' which Reception children will think about during our daily Collective Worship and House Group Assemblies. During our PSHE learning in class, we will be thinking about our 'Dreams and Goals'.

### **RE (Reception Class)**

During RE lessons this half term, Reception will spend time considering why is the word of God so important to Christians and, as we approach Easter, we will learn about Why Christians put a Cross in an Easter Garden.

### **PE (Reception Class)**

This half term, PE for Reception children will involve Dance which will take place on Thursday mornings in the hall. The children should wear their PE kit to school on Thursday and will get changed into their school uniform before lunch.

### **Tooth brushing Programme**

Thank you for re-submitting permission for your child to take part in the tooth brushing programme. Oral health is part of the EYFS curriculum and we are pleased to be able to provide supervised tooth-brushing as an important aspect of the children's learning. This will take place on most, school days. Please be aware that the teeth brushing programme in no way replaces the need for teeth brushing at home. The NHS recommends that parents and carers brush their children's teeth until the age of 6.

## **Toddler Group & Stay and Play Sessions**

We thoroughly enjoy welcoming Toddlers and their parents/carers to the FSU on Wednesday afternoons and have been encouraged and enthused by feedback from parents about the value to their child in being able to gain familiarity with the adults and setting before starting with us, as well as those of you who have enjoyed the opportunity to share their child's learning through play with them on this day.

## **Outdoor Learning**

Thank you to everybody for ensuring the children have had wellies and warm coats in school every day. Despite the winter weather, the children continue to spend considerable amounts of time accessing learning opportunities in our outdoor areas so we do appreciate your help with making sure that your child has suitable warm clothing and a full set of spare clothing with them - including socks! (which they can use in the event of getting damp, slipping over or using the water trays a little too enthusiastically!).

## **Parent/carer involvement**

Photos taken of your Nursery child are available to view on Tapestry. Please continue to add anything that relates to any of their learning or any 'Wow Moments' that your children have at home to Tapestry - we love to see and hear about their learning and achievements.

We look forward to welcoming parents/carers of Reception children to another 'Share our learning session' later in the term - details will be included in the school weekly newsletter.

As always, if you have any queries about your child's school life or would like to discuss any aspect of your child's wellbeing with us, please let me know.

Kind regards

Mrs North and the FSU Team.