



## Welcome to Spring term!

The children have returned back to school after Christmas eager to learn and we have lots to focus on this term.

Some of the topics we will be covering are winter, spring emotions, growing. We will also continue to follow the children's interests to extend and challenge their learning.

We will continue to focus strongly on teaching the children to read and write following the Read Write Inc programme. The children enjoy this and are making excellent progress. As always we appreciate your help in teaching your child to learn. Please continue to bring their reading folder, reading record and reading book to school every day and read at home as often as possible with your child.

During this term we will be holding a stay and play session in class for you to experience some of the learning your child engages in. Date to follow.

Ensuring all areas of the EYs curriculum are covered we will be focussing on the following:

### **Personal Social and Emotional Development**

- Can describe self in positive terms and talk about abilities
- Explains own knowledge and understanding, and asks appropriate questions of others.
- Understands that own actions affect other people, for example, becomes upset or tries to comfort another child when they realise they have upset them.

### **Communication and Language**

- Maintains attention, concentrates and sits quietly during appropriate activity.
- Able to follow a story without pictures or props.
- Uses talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events.

### **Physical Development**

- Negotiates space successfully when playing racing and chasing games with other children, adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles.
- Handles tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control.
- Begins to form recognisable letters.

### **Literacy**

- Can segment the sounds in simple words and blend them together and knows which letters represent some of them.
- Links sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet.
- Read and write words and simple sentences.

### **Mathematics**

- Estimates how many objects they can see and checks by counting them.
- Counts objects to 10, and beginning to count beyond 10.
- Adding and taking away objects from a group.
- Uses everyday language related to time.
- Beginning to use everyday language related to money.

### **Understanding the World**

- Knows some of the things that make them unique, and can talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends or family.
- Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.
- Completes a simple program on a computer.

### **Expressive Art and Design**

- Understands that different media can be combined to create new effects.
- Explores the different sounds of instruments
- Constructs with a purpose in mind, using a variety of resources.
- Plays cooperatively as part of a group to develop and act out a narrative.



**A few reminders...**

**Dropping your child off** - The children are becoming more independent and seeing we have so much learning to fit in we must start our work promptly. Therefore after half term we ask you to leave your child at the door to come into school on their own. Staff are available to support your child if needed.

**Times** - The school day starts at 8.55am and ends at 3.10pm. If you arrive after 9am please enter school via the main entrance as you will receive a late mark. Veranda doors will be closed and entry will not be permitted.

**Uniform** - Please ensure your child wears a school uniform everyday and it has their name on.

**Library** - Brown Bears library packs will be changed on a Thursday. Polar Bears will be changed on a Tuesday.

**Reading** - After reading with your child please make sure you write a short comment in their reading record (yellow book) e.g.

*Joe read well today. Joe was able to tell me about the story. Joe struggled with this book and needed help to read "the".*

**Handwriting** - We are continuing to practise writing using the cursive script, please continue to help your child at home.

**Homework** - Please complete any homework sent home to practise what your child has been learning in school and return on the date requested.

**Learning Journal Files** - These are kept in your child's classroom and are available for you to look at and comment on. We value all contributions you make to your child's learning and welcome any comments/examples you may have.

**Parents as Partners** - We are always grateful for any help you may want to give us in the classroom—being involved with creative work, making and preparing resources. Please let us know if you would like to help.