



Nursery

Parent Newsletter  
Spring 2018

Mrs Thompson

*A school where everyone shines.*

Welcome back after the half-term holidays. I hope you have had a lovely week and that you are all ready for more exciting learning!

<b><u>Learning Challenge—How do my toys work?</u></b>	
	<p>This half term we will be starting our new learning challenge “How do things move?” During this learning challenge, we will be exploring a range of toys and thinking about how they work. The children will be introduced to push and pull forces and how these actions give energy to various toys. The children will be taking part in challenges to make toys move faster and further by exerting more force and be introduced to measuring distance. We will be introducing our new learning challenge by taking a range of large toys on to the big playground and exploring how to make them move, as well as exploring the forces needed to climb the climbing frame and slide down the slide. The learning challenge will culminate in a session of box modelling. You will be invited to join your child and help them to make a vehicle/toy. Details will be provided closer to the time.</p>
<p><b><u>Letters and Sounds</u></b></p> 	<p>The nursery curriculum consists of a balance between child-initiated and adult-led activities. A daily letters and sounds session is one of the planned adult-led sessions and is integral in developing the children's awareness of sounds in words and their readiness for reading in Reception. This half term, some children will be focussing on rhyme and rhythm. They will learn about the syllables in words and copying and creating a range of rhythms as well as learning how to match rhyming words. Other children will be introduced to oral blending and segmenting. They will learn how sounds go together to create a word as well as how to split words up into individual sounds.</p>
<p><b><u>Literacy</u></b></p> 	<p><b><u>Reading</u></b> We will continue to reinforce the features of books and how to read them, such as the front cover, tracking the words from left to right, recognizing story structures and using story language to retell and act out stories. We will also use stories and pictures to work on the children's retrieval and inference skills to aid their understanding.</p> <p><b><u>Speaking and Listening</u></b> All of the activities planned in the nursery are designed to encourage speaking and listening at all levels through child-initiated and adult-led activities. We have set up a new garage role play area to encourage this and will spend time in here modeling good use of role play language, listening skills and turn-taking.</p>

## Subject

### Mathematics



In maths, the children will continue to learn about number recognition and counting. The numbers used will be personalised to each individual child based on their prior knowledge. These will range from 1-20. The children will be learning strategies to help with the different layers of counting including oral counting, counting out amounts from a larger group and touch counting. This will be taught within a range of fun and exciting practical games.

We will continue to reinforce concepts such as 2D shape, size, pattern, positional language and times of the day. The children will also be introduced to weight and data handling, in the form of pictograms.

### Physical Development



As part of developing the children's fine motor control, a range of carefully planned activities and resources are available for them to use as part of their child-initiated time. These include resources like scissors, hole punches and split pins, threading, nuts and bolts, playdoh and a range of writing equipment. There are also a range of writing opportunities at different levels around the areas of the nursery. We encourage the children to either write their own name on their pictures or have a go at writing over the top of our writing. We also encourage them to add more detail to their pictures at each child's individual level e.g. adding a body/fingers/hair. This is to build on the children's prior skills.

The children will also have many opportunities to develop their gross motor control through adult-led PE sessions and child-initiated outdoor play. We have a range of small equipment such as bats, balls, hoops and bean bags as well as bikes, scooters and climbing equipment for the larger movements.

### PE Sessions



The morning PE session will be changed to Wednesday in the school hall. The afternoon session will remain the same on a Thursday. We would greatly appreciate your support on these days in asking you to ensure that your child is wearing suitable clothes for moving around easily and safely, and socks and footwear that are easy for them to remove and put back on themselves. This also provides your child with the opportunity to become more independent in their own self care. Please remove any earrings and ensure that long hair is tied up on these days.

This half-term, the children will be learning how to travel over, under and around a range of apparatus and also how to balance. They will also learn how to jump off apparatus and land safely.

### Library

The nursery library sessions will continue to be on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons. The children will still have the opportunity to choose a book to take home and share with their family. Their book does not need to be changed on a weekly basis if they would like to keep it for a longer period of time. Please support us and continue the children's learning by discussing features like the front cover, the title, characters and story structure when sharing the book with them.

### Outdoor play and exploration

The children spend time outside in the nursery playground everyday. This involves riding bikes and scooters, exploring and using the climbing frames and digging in the soil. Please ensure that your child has appropriate footwear and clothing so that they are warm and dry whilst exploring the outdoor area. These clothes will get dirty so please do not bring them in any of their best clothing.

### Special events

We will be celebrating a range of events this half-term, here are the dates:

Mother's Day—Sunday 11th March

Polar Explorer Day—Tuesday 13th March

Sport's Relief—Friday 23rd March

### Sickness

If your child is unable to attend nursery due to illness, please inform us by ringing the school office. If your child is unfortunate enough to catch a sickness bug, could you please ensure that they do not return to Nursery until they have had 48 hours clear of any vomiting or diarrhea. This limits the chances of the bug spreading and allows your child time to recover. Thank you for your co-operation.

Remember to keep an eye on the windows and doors in and around the Nursery and the school website for any other news or events which happen before our next half-termly newsletter.

Thank you for your support during the staff changes in nursery last half term - I am aware that having a new teacher is a big change for yourselves as well as for the children. If you have any questions about your child's learning or the activities planned for nursery then please do not hesitate to ask. There is a lot of learning happening in nursery and your support is vital in reinforcing this at home. We hope to see many of you taking part in our junk modeling sessions at the end of the half term.

Mrs Thompson  
Nursery Teacher