



# Nursery Central News

## Summer Term 1

### Staff you will meet . . .

Miss Carol Jenkins (Class Teacher)  
 Mrs Julie Wakelin, Miss Stacey Bedford (Teaching Assistants)  
 Miss Lauren Whitfield (Apprentice)  
 Miss Lydia Eaton (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)  
 Miss Lynne Johnson (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)

### Our aims . . .

Coming in to school and writing our name independently.  
 To develop children's independence by promoting an 'I can' attitude towards their self care e.g putting on own coats, going to the toilet, washing their hands independently.  
 For children to recognise and describe special times and events in the lives of their friends and families.  
 To help children understand that they have similarities and differences to others and what makes them unique.  
 Inspiring the children to 'be the best they can be'.

### Our Learning ...

Our topic this term is 'Marvelous Me!' The topic focusses on families and pets. Children will be looking at the people who are in their families, including pets, and describing special times with them such as birthdays and holidays. Children will be encouraged to develop their vocabulary in describing these events and will be developing a sense of their self and where they come from. The ongoing topic of Seasons will continue this half term and as the weather gradually gets warmer we will be looking at how this effect living things and environments.

Our focus texts this half term will be a variety of 'Spot the Dog' books. The children will be using 'talk for writing' to create their own story maps to retell the story. This will encourage children to use story language, join in with repeated refrains and to recall the events from the story. There will also be a range of non-fiction texts available in the classroom for children to develop their vocabulary and understanding of families and different ways of life. The children will be looking at similarities and differences between themselves and other people to develop their understanding of the world and how different people live.

This half term we will also be introducing the Read Write Inc phonics scheme into Nursery. Children will be taught the sounds of letters in a precise order to support them in blending and segmenting words to read and write when they are ready to do this. The children are taught rhymes to help them learn the letter sounds and help them to form these letters correctly when they begin to write them.

In maths we will continue building on our number skills, we will be focusing on using mathematical language to compare amounts and use numicon to support children's visual understanding of 'more' and 'less'. Children will continue to work on recognising numerals and then matching these to their quantities. There will be a focus this half term on supporting children in accurate touch counting to 10. Children will be comparing amounts to say when they are the same or how they are different using mathematical language. There will also be a focus on children using pictures to represent numbers in the form of pictograms and tally charts.

We will continue working on our understanding of shapes, space and measure through activities set up in the classroom where children can compare objects according to length, height, shape and colour.

Our role play area this half term will be a 'Vets for Pets'. The children will be able to deepen their numeracy skills by counting and handling money. The children will also be able to enhance their reading and writing skills by 'giving prescriptions' to the animals they care for and writing names in their appointment book. Children will be able to act out role play scenarios and engage in imaginative role play activities whilst continuing to build relationships with their peers.

The construction area this half term will include large bricks and Duplo bricks for children to build models of their houses. They will also be able to design homes for their pets thinking about the size and shape most appropriate for their pet. The children will also have the opportunity to look at different houses from around the world and have a go at recreating these using the construction equipment available.

Computers and the interactive whiteboard will be available for children to use to develop and strengthen their technology skills whilst also supporting children's communication and language skills and enhancing their vocabulary. The children will be able to choose their own music using the interactive board and sing along deepening their understanding of numbers and letters through the choice of songs available.

Our sand area has been invaded by snakes! The children will be able to act out role play activities using the snakes and develop their vocabulary by comparing the length of the snakes.

Our water area will become a sea world aquarium! Children will have access to a variety of sea life creatures to compare their features such as size, shape and colour. They will develop their understanding of how different creatures are adapted to survive in different habitats.

Children will have the opportunity to explore our outdoor area where there will be lots of opportunities for them to extend and consolidate the learning they are doing in the classroom.

Outside we have small and large equipment for children to work on their fine and gross motor skills, there are reading, writing and maths activities available to develop and extend children's knowledge. The outdoor area allows children to work on their physical development by climbing, jumping, balancing, playing with balls and other small equipment.

Children will be expected to explore, investigate and learn outside regardless of the weather. We therefore ask that every child comes to school with a spare pair of clothes, a waterproof jacket and a pair of wellington boots which we can store at school for your child to use when needed.

### **Key skills for this term ...**

Being independent in taking off and putting on our own coats, going to the toilet and washing our hands.

Writing our first name independently.

Recognising letters and listening for the initial sounds in words as part of our introduction to Read Write Inc.

Touch counting accurately up to 10 and matching quantities up to their numeral.

Recognise similarities of shapes in the environment.

Continue to develop children's confidence and vocabulary while speaking.

To develop an understanding of families and relations.

### **What parents can do to help ...**

Talk to your child about his/her family. Maybe create a family tree!

Support your child in recognising and writing their full name.

Play number games with your child such as 'What time is it Mr Wolf?' And encourage them to count things when they are out and about, such as how many steps they take, how many cars they pass.

Continue to promote independence, allowing your child to do as much for themselves as they can, such as putting on their own clothes for outdoors, hanging up their own belongings and taking care of themselves at the toilet.

Encourage your child to use their manners at all times and to be polite and respectful to their peers and adults.

### **If you have a question for us ....**

If you have any questions, concerns or worries please do not hesitate to come into Nursery and speak to a member of staff at home time.

