



Newsletter Spring Term 1

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Happy New Year

Wishing all our families a happy, healthy and peaceful new year. We hope you are keeping safe and well in these challenging times.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone as soon as the vaccine is rolled out and the rates begin to decrease.

INSET DAY: Friday 12th February 2021

Please note we will be having a Staff Training Day on Friday 12th February. School will be closed to all pupils. This is to further develop the skills of our staff and enhance teaching and learning experiences for all pupils.

Reception class places September 2021

You must submit your application for a place in reception class for September 2021 by 15th January 2021 at the latest.

If your child will be 4 before 31st August 2021 you should apply now for a place in a reception class.

It is important that you find the right school for your child, so please do go and have a look at any school you are interested in, look on their school website and read their latest Ofsted report, so that you can make an informed choice.

You can find out about school open days and apply for a place online by following the link below.

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1786/apply_for_reception_primary_school

COVID 19 UPDATE:

Due to current Government guidelines, we are only able to offer places to children of critical workers and those who are vulnerable. Please email the school office if you are eligible for a place.

Please remember that all adults are required to wear a face covering when on the school site. If you are exempt for medical reasons, please let us know.

Staff will be wearing visors and/ or masks when children are collected and dropped off. Please talk to your child about this so that they are prepared.

We will review the current procedures and offer to families every 2-3 weeks. If there is any change in the guidance for re-opening, we will contact all families immediately. Thank you for your understanding in this challenging time.

Home Learning

During our current period of reduced provision, Home Learning activities will be posted daily on to our Tapestry app. Please check for regular, fun activities that you can complete at home. You can post your Home Learning activities on to Tapestry. We really look forward to seeing what you are doing at home!

It is not a requirement for all activities to be completed. We understand that you may have other children at home, be working from home yourself, or may just wish to focus on other areas of learning with your child. These activities are to support those who wish to access them.

Chinese New Year celebrations Mon 8th - Friday 12th February

We will be learning about Chinese New Year and tasting a range of foods from the region. Children will learn all about the customs and festivities surrounding the celebration.

Core books we will be reading this half term

We focus upon particular books each half term to read to the children regularly so that children develop a bank of well known and loved stories.

You can help by getting the story from your local library and reading it at home to your child.

These stories will be a stimulus for imaginative role play, mark making, creating models and many other learning opportunities.

Poppies & Sunflowers (3-4 year olds) & Daisies (2-3 year olds):



We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

Please remember to send your child in with healthy lunch choices, as we are a 'Healthy Eating' school. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

We're learning to say 'hello' in Cantonese

We teach children to say hello in a different language each half term.

This half term we are learning to say hello in Cantonese

你好 'Nǐ hǎo'

Core Rhymes

Singing rhymes helps children learn about rhythm and rhyme to help with pre reading skills. It is also great fun! This half term we will be singing:

Poppies & Sunflowers (3-4 year olds): 'Isn't it Funny How a Bear Likes Honey?', 'Teddy Bear Teddy Bear Turn Around', 'When Goldilocks went to the house of the Bears', 'Five Little Teddy Bears Jumping on the Bed'

Daisies (2-3 year olds): 'Round and Round the Garden, Like Teddy Bear' Humpty Dumpty; Hickory Dickory; Incy wincy spider

Safety week Mon 24th– Fri 29th January

We will be talking to children about staying safe.

Parent Workshops: Internet Safety & PANTS

Find out how to keep your child safe online. Due to current restrictions, we will email this information out to parents.

Makaton signs

Makaton is designed to support spoken language – signs are used alongside speech to help children to communicate.

We are teaching children the following signs:
New year; Chinese; Dragon; No; Safe

We will learn the signs to: We're going on a Bear Hunt'
Going; Bear; Look; Big; Scared

Follow the link below to find more about Makaton
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/makaton>

This half term we will be learning.....

Personal, social & emotional development

- o Making Relationships – circle time games
- o Leadership roles
- o Ring games
- o Vocabulary of emotions & feelings relating to Going on a Bear Hunt
- o Learning about staying safe

Communication & Language

- o Respond to simple instructions eg put your coat on.
- o Understand prepositions- under, through, over
- o Understand 'why' and 'how' questions
- o Recall and relive past experiences
- o Question why things happen and give explanations

Physical development

- o Outdoor Play – creating obstacle courses
- o Painting – Chinese patterns – year of the rat
- o Independently using bikes with road markings
- o Tasting Chinese Food
- o Introduce NSPCC PANTS information (safety week)
- o Introduce Road Safety activities (safety week)

Literacy

- o Attempting writing names
- o Finding own names at registration
- o Give meaning to marks made
- o Spot known signs and familiar words
- o Handle books carefully
- o Listen to stories with increasing attention and recall
- o Join in with repeated refrains - "We can't go over it....."
- o Anticipate key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.

Maths

- o Nursery rhymes that subtract– Teddy Bears jumping on bed,
- o Shapes in the environment
- o Mark making numbers
- o Physical play- exploring counting jumps, steps etc
- o Block play- making arrangements with blocks – making bear caves/homes
- o Outdoor play- look for shapes in the environment
- o Compare weight and length of objects

Understanding the World

- o Role play- Chinese home/foods/utensils – taste Chinese foods
- o Safety week- meet visitor to talk about occupations
- o Planting, observing changes in weather and growth in garden
- o Care for the fish
- o Draw picture on I board and send to printer
- o Safety week-Read 'Chicken clickin'

Expressive arts & design

- o Key songs and rhymes-
- o Mixing colours
- o Use instrument cards to follow a steady beat
- o Music played daily to widen musical repertoires
- o Making a Chinese dragon and painting Chinese script
- o Listening to Chinese music and moving to it

Unicef Rights Respecting School

We are very proud to have achieved our Gold Unicef Rights Respecting School award which demonstrates our commitment to Children's Rights.

This half term we will focus upon the following rights:

Article 19: Protection from violence abuse and neglect

Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them

- o NSPCC PANTS materials
- o Use of Group time friend puppets to talk about staying safe

Article 29: Goals of education Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

- o Applied Theatre students work
- o We're Going on a Bear Hunt theatre trip
- o Visit from mobile library

Article 30: Culture Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, regardless of whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

- o Chinese New Year
- o Learning to say hello in Cantonese

Learning at home

Each half term you will be given a 'Home Learning' sheet with ideas for supporting learning at home. Which link to things we are doing at nursery.

We suggest 'next steps' for your child's learning and development on their Tapestry observations that you can access and also add your own pictures and comments.

More ideas for learning at home are available on our website under the 'Teaching & Learning' section.
www.goodwayn.bham.sch.uk

Please choose a book each week to read with your child and read with them every day. Sharing a story together every day is the most important thing you can do to support your child's early reading development.

Half Term break

We close for the half term break on Thursday 11th February. Children return to school on Monday 22nd February 2021.