

Dear Nursery (f1) Parents and Carers,

This half-term our topic is 'Toys'.

We will be reading lots of stories about different toys such as 'Kipper's Toy Box', 'The Everywhere Bear', 'The Toy Museum' and 'Toys in Space'.

We will be looking at and talking about different types of toys. During circle time we will tell our friends about our favourite toys at home - how we play with them, what they do and how we make them work.

We will be making some toys that move using our construction kit called Mobilo.

We will be looking at and learning about old toys. We will be talking about how different they might be from the toys we play with today.

Our RE theme is 'Celebrations'. We will talk about the New Year and how different people celebrate. We will talk about making New Year's resolutions. We will listen to the story 'The flowers came, Spring arrived'. This is a story about the ancient festival of Nowruz. We will also read The Holi Story, looking on the map to find India and talk about the way people may celebrate together during this festival. We will tell our friends how we celebrate special times such as our birthdays, Easter etc.

Our PE sessions will focus on 'gymnastics'. We will be learning how to move safely with and around others. We will be holding a position without moving and learning how to balance. We will be learning how to use our bodies to make different shapes and also how to move like different animals.

Our art sessions will focus on 'Painting and mixed media'. We will be learning how to use paint, how we use one brush for each colour and how to clean our brush with clean water. We will be using the skills we learn to paint our favourite toys. We will also be finger painting, painting outdoors using buckets of water and large paint brushes, and using natural materials such as mud to make our paintings.

**General Information:**

Morning nursery begins at 8:45am. If your child comes to school late and the gates are locked, please take them to the reception office and a member of nursery staff will collect them from there.

The session for part time morning children finishes at 11:45am. Please wait for your child at the nursery gates and a member of staff will send them out to you as soon as they are ready.

Full time children will need a healthy packed lunch (please do not send food with any nut content and grapes and large blueberries will need to be cut in half lengthways). Nursery finishes at 3:30pm. Please wait at the nursery gates and a member of staff will send your child out to you. Parents can pick their nursery child up earlier if their siblings are in a class

with an earlier finish time (please let staff know if you need to do this).

Afternoon nursery session begins at 12:30pm until 3:30pm. These children will need to have eaten their lunch at home before the session begins. Please wait at the red school gate (enter from School Street), and a member of staff will collect your child from there.

Please send your child to nursery with water in a labelled bottle for them to access throughout the day. It will be sent home each day to be cleaned and returned the next day.

Library will now be held in the school computer suite every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 8:15am - 8:40am. We hope you can come along, choose a story and read with your child. Children learn so much language from these sessions and reading for pleasure is so important to all of our children.

Your child will need a pair of wellies for outdoor playtime. The field can sometimes become quite wet and muddy, yet the children still love to be out there! This will also help keep indoor shoes clean and carpets mud-free!

Please remember, as the weather is becoming colder, children will need appropriate outdoor clothing. Warm coats, hats and gloves are essential as we spend lots of learning time outdoors.

As usual, if anyone different is to pick your child up from nursery, or you are going to be later than expected, please let a member of staff know, or give the school a ring. Also, please could you collect your child promptly at 11:45am (morning nursery) or 3:30pm for afternoon and full time children. Thank you.

### How can you help at home?

Ask your child what they have been doing at nursery. Talk to them about what they enjoy doing.

Sing rhymes and songs. Ask them about their favourite songs. Tell them about your favourite songs.

Talk to your child. Ask them questions. Language development is everything at this age!

Read, read, read! Ask questions about the main characters, where the stories are set and what happens in the story.

Count at every opportunity. Show them 'how many' using their fingers.

Encourage them to mark–make every day. Let them draw on the paths using buckets of water and brushes or chinks.

Let them see you writing. Explain what you are writing (give writing a purpose).

Point out letters, numbers and shapes in the environment.

Build up their language through pretend play.

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Show them how to use scissors – snipping paper is a good start.

Encourage them to get dressed on their own. Show them how to put tights and socks on.

Show them how to turn their coat sleeves the right way around. Show them how to zip their coat up on their own.

Go on walks. Let them run, climb and balance.

Encourage them to eat a varied diet.

Ensure they know the importance of brushing their teeth twice each day and after meals if possible.

Thank you for your support

From Mrs Pollard and the F1 team