



## RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Year Hedgehog Nursery      Summer Term 2019**  
**Curriculum News letter**  
**Class Teachers: Sally Eustance, Andrea Clover**  
**Nursery Nurses: Anna Milic, Donna Cade**

Dear Parents/Carers, Welcome to the Summer term Nursery newsletter. We hope you had a restful break!

This half term will be based on 'The Hungry Caterpillar.' The children will be learning about the 'Life Cycle of a Butterfly' with the arrival of live caterpillars in the first few weeks. We will create a 'Mini beast house' and making a fresh fruit caterpillars. The children will be observing the different stages of the life cycle and doing observational drawings, making different models and writing about the things they are seeing.

We will also be reading the traditional tale of 'Jack and the Bean stalk.' The children will have lots of opportunities to act out the story in the classroom and in the forest. They will be growing their own beans, fruit and vegetables to share at snack time together later in the term. The children will work together to transform the home corner into a castle to enhance their imaginative play and to create story writing opportunities. Later in the term, we will be looking at growing and changing as the children prepare to move to reception.

These two books will help to support your child's learning within these areas.....

### **Prime areas:**

#### **Personal, Social and Emotional:**

- Explaining knowledge and understanding.
- Asking appropriate questions of others.
- Can describe self in positive terms and talk about abilities.
- Being able to negotiate and solve problems without aggression.

#### **Physical development:**

- Shows increasing control over an object by pushing, patting, throwing, catching & kicking it.
- Beginning to form recognisable letters.
- Eats a healthy range of food stuffs and understands need for variety in food.

#### **Communication and Language:**

- Maintain attention concentrates and sits quietly during appropriate activity.
- Listening and responding to ideas expressed by others in conversations or discussions.
- Uses talk to organise sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and event.

### **Specific Areas:**

**Literacy:**

- Continues a rhyming string.
- Hearing and saying initial sounds in words.
- Enjoying an increasing range of books.
- Writing initial sound in words
- Writing their own names and other things, such as labels and captions.

**Mathematics:**

- Selecting the correct numeral to represent 1-5 then 1-10 objects.
- Using the language of 'more' and 'fewer' to compare two sets of objects.
- Ordering and sequencing familiar events'
- Using everyday language related to time.

**Expressive Arts and Design:**

- Experimenting with materials to create different textures.
- Manipulating a variety of materials to achieve a planned effect when creating a model.
- Using simple tools and techniques competently and appropriately.
- Creates simple representations of events, people and objects
- Playing co-operatively as part of a group to develop and act out a narrative.

**Understanding the World:**

- Enjoying joining in with family customs and routines.
- Showing care and concern for living things and the environment.
- Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.
- Talking about some of the things they have observed.
- Using ICT hardware to interact with age appropriate computer software.

**Daily Phonics**

This term in the Nursery the children will be introduced to the Ruth Miskin phonics program. Each week the children will be introduced to a new sound by the help of 'Fred the Frog'. Fred only speaks in 'Fred speak' which is in sounds. By the end of the term they should be beginning to be familiar with the first 10 or more sounds and letter formations from the first set. You have been given details of the activities you can do with your child to support their phonics learning in their phonic books.

**Show and Tell sessions.**

This half term in the Hedgehog nursery we will also be introducing a 'Show & Tell' Rota in the nursery. Each child will get the opportunity to bring something into nursery to talk about. This item can be: - a photo of a family trip or event, a memory such as a collected stone, fossil, or a memento, a favourite book or story. Your child will then be asked to speak about this item for a couple of minutes with the teacher and children asking them a few questions too. This is a very informal session but it helps to build up confidence and speaking and listening skills. Please look on the noticeboard for the date of your own child's show and tell session date.

**Home learning**

This half terms home learning will be

- Spending time with your child practicing of the phonics sounds that your child will be introduced to each week.
- Continuing to spend time sharing your child's 'tapestry' pictures with them. Ask them to choose a favourite picture and ask them to talk about what they were doing.
- If your child is interested in learning to write their names, could you please show them a capital letter for the first letter only and lower case for the other ones. We will be doing some name recognition activities and getting the children to make marks on paper and whiteboards to represent the letters of their names to help with this too.

## **Other Important Information**

### **Book bags**

Please remember to bring book bags to nursery every day, especially on a Monday/Tuesday, as we will be sending home the phonics work for you to stick into the sound books.

### **Summer clothing**

Even though the weather is getting much nicer, please ensure your child has layers of clothes to keep them warm through the chillier days. Please provide them with a labelled sun hat that can stay in the nursery and apply any sun cream at home before nursery starts. For health and safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear open toed sandals or crocs without straps.

### **Bringing 'home' toys into nursery!**

Could parents/carers please discourage the children from bringing their own toys from home into the nursery as these can cause many problems. Often children are unwilling to share their own toys and if they get lost or broken we will not be able to replace them. We have many lovely nursery toys that the children can play with together.

### **Helper rota**

This terms' 'Parent/Carer rota' is up on the wall inside the nursery. Please sign up and spend some time with us. The children love to share what they are doing with their parents and carers. We really do appreciate that many of you work and find it difficult to get into Nursery, but you do not need to come in for a whole afternoon session, you could just come in for story time at 2.30pm. It would be lovely to see you all. If you do sign up to help out please remember you need to sign in at the main office first so Jo Simms can give you a visitor's badge

### **Picking up information**

If your child is being picked up by someone other than their usual adult then please remember to let us know. It can then be written on the notice board in the nursery cloak room area so all members of the nursery team can see it. If you are delayed then please contact the Nursery staff directly on 0208 826 1894.

### **Special Events**

The Nursery children will be going on a trip to Lea Valley farm in Summer 2. More information will be sent out nearer the time.

We will also be in touch about our summer 'show and tell' assembly.

If you have any questions or queries, please do remember we are always here to help. Please speak to a member of the team to arrange a mutually convenient time.

We are looking forward to another productive and busy half term. Thank you for your continued support, we looking forward to working with you,

Kind Regards, The Woodpecker & Hedgehog Nursery Team.

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