



Harvey Road School

Nursery Class

Spring 2017

Welcome back to Nursery Class! We wish you all a happy and healthy 2017 and are looking forward to an exciting new term.

Now that the children have settled into nursery we have made a few changes to key worker groups (a slip was in children's drawers last Friday). This will give the children an opportunity to learn with peers that they may not have worked with before.

Learning Journey files: We continue to keep a record of your child's experiences at school in their learning journey. Please feel free to contribute to these by sending in certificates or achievements from home, using the 'ask me about' stickers or filling in a 'wow moments' sheet which we will send home in drawers soon.

P.E. lessons are on Tuesday mornings and the children need to have their kit in school each week. We will aim to fully change for PE this term so please continue to help your child to be as independent as possible when dressing and undressing at home.

Please clearly name all items of clothing.

Assemblies: We will have a very short "star celebration" assembly each half term. These will no longer be shared with reception and will now take place in the Nursery classroom. Details will be sent in the weekly newsletter.

Our class topics this term will include transport, shopping, farms / farm animals and fruit and vegetables.

PPA cover is provided by the nursery team on Friday mornings, once a fortnight. Wednesdays will be led by Mrs Ellis, Mrs Rider and Mrs Michael.

Literacy

Reading:

We will read a variety of books together including fiction, non-fiction and rhymes. We will begin to learn Phase 2 phonic sounds which we will use to help us begin to build and read short words. As the term progresses we will begin to introduce group reading where a small group of children will go to a quiet space to read a book together and talk about their responses to it. Sometimes we will look at Phase 2 phonic books to give children the opportunity to practice blending sounds to make words and sometimes we will listen to a story being read and take some time to talk about it and answer questions.

Writing:

We will continue to encourage talk about their mark making and to annotate the children's marks. We will also begin to encourage them to use the sounds they know to write simple words and practice writing their names. The children's writing will often be linked to the topics we are covering this term. Please remember that not all children are ready to write at the same time. We celebrate all children's attempts at 'writing' or drawing and encourage them with lots of praise.

Communication and Language

To encourage good speaking and listening skills, staff will be modelling polite language, sharing circle times with their key groups and consistently reminding children of key listening behaviours. During phonics sessions we will be building on the skills learned last term by looking at phase 2 sounds, using listening skills to rhyme, segment and blend to make short words. We use lots of opportunities to speak to a whole group when the children are sharing their achievements and reflecting on their learning.

Mathematics

We shall continue to practise counting to 20 and beyond. We will encourage the children to count a variety of objects and actions reinforcing the principal of 'careful counting'. We will work towards recognising numerals to 10 and 20, matching quantities to numerals, comparing sizes, lengths and weights, recognising 2d shapes and applying all of these aspects in play or games. We will also be singing lots of number songs such as '5 Little Ducks', '5 Speckled Frogs', '10 Green Bottles' etc to become familiar with taking numbers away.

Understanding the World

Our topics this term will include transport, shopping and farms as well as incorporating other interests the children have. We will be encouraging them to talk about things they have observed, why things happen and how things work and to talk about significant events within their own experience.

Expressive Arts and Design

We shall build on basic artistic skills such as painting, drawing simple shapes and faces, mixing colours, joining, junk modelling and colouring skills. Our role play areas will be focused on familiar settings and will include a train station, a shop and a cafe. We often sing and use music as a means for the children to join in and learn about rhythm and movement.

Physical Education

Three times a week children take part in 'Busy Fingers' activities to develop their fine motor skills in preparation for writing.

On Thursdays we go to the dough disco (the school hall) to practice manipulating play dough to music – great fun. You can watch example videos of this on you tube to get an idea of what we do. Again this is to build fine motor skills.

The children will be focusing on independent physical skills during their child initiated play such as throwing and catching balls, skipping, balancing etc.

In class PE we will be finding our own space in the hall, travelling in different ways and in different directions, learning to climb and travel safely on apparatus and introducing parachute games.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We continue to encourage and support the children in making friends and gaining confidence and independence. Class rules are discussed at the beginning of the term and we will continue to encourage sharing, good manners and friendly behavior within the classroom. We will use methods such as adult modelling, circle games, stories and role play.