

Curriculum Newsletter

Dear families,

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and to hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful break. Thank you so much for all the Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes - we were quite overwhelmed by your generosity and thoughtfulness.

The first topic for this half term is 'People Who Help Us'. During this topic we will learn about the people and their roles who help us. We are looking forward to meeting different members of our community who have these roles. We would be very grateful if anyone who works for any public service, would be prepared to come and talk to the children about their occupation. If you can please contact your child's teacher.

In Understanding the World, we will be investigating 'push and pull' forces, and looking at how we can move different emergency vehicles to get them to their destinations quickly. We will start to think about where we live and what a map is used for, using them in our call centre to help vehicles reach an emergency.

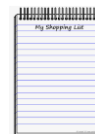


We are continuing to focus our phonic sessions on learning letter sounds and the formation of each letter shape. We are learning our digraphs which are two letters that join together to make one sound- for example **s** and **h** join together to make the new sound **sh**. We will continue to send home sound flash cards for you to practise at home. Alongside their sound recognition, please practise putting the letter sounds together to read in words too. We will be sending home our 'tricky words' soon which the children need to learn by sight. This is due to the English language and that some words we have to learn by sight as they can not be blended.

The children are really enjoying reading and sharing their confidence with their blending skills with us. Please remember to have your child's reading book and reading record book in their book bag every Thursday. We would really appreciate if you could write a short comment in your child's reading record book each week too. It can be as simple as a smiley face to say you have read the book or a written comment as to how they have done.



In writing we will continue to strengthen the children's hand control through activities such as cutting, tracing, threading, pegging objects and handwriting patterns. We will be consolidating teaching the children how to form their letters correctly, as we revise the letter sounds. Please refer to your copy of the school print script to help your child. We are using our sounds to write labels, lists and simple captions, using the sounds we can hear. Children tend to be able to hear the initial and then final sounds first. This then develops into them securely being able to hear the dominant sounds in simple words. Can they show you at home their writing? Encourage them to write a shopping list



In Maths we will continue to build on the children's understanding of numbers, through number sense, representing, comparing and composition of the numbers to 8. We will introduce new concepts such as teaching addition as combining two groups of objects. The children will be taught these concepts through practical activities ensuring they understand the processes and use the correct vocabulary. If your child finds it tricky to recognise or form their numbers with you, please continue to practise this at home. You might spy numbers in the environment when walking (house numbers or car registrations are useful tools) make the numbers in different ways with different objects or try writing them using different materials.



Finally, we would like to thank you for all your help and support last term, we thought the children looked wonderful in the Christmas production, so thank you for all your preparation!

Yours sincerely,

Abby Sneddon
Squirrel Class



Georgia Channell
Otter Class



Mel Arnott
Hedgehog Class



& the Early Years Leadership