



# Welcome to Nursery class 2018-19

***Coming up in the Autumn term ...***

## ***Learning***

As well as learning through their own self-chosen activities, the children will be:

- listening to, discriminating between and talking about sounds (Letters & Sounds phase 1), including environmental, instrumental and body percussion sounds, before going on to explore rhythm, rhyme and alliteration.
- exploring shapes, patterns and numbers through games, puzzles and rhymes
- mark-making using a variety of media such as crayon, pencil, chalk and paints.
- model-making with junk materials and construction sets such as Duplo.
- learning in R.E. – about the importance of our names and that God knows and loves each one of us; about welcoming, and that Baptism is a welcome into God's family; about the excitement of waiting for birthdays, and that Advent is the time when we wait for Jesus' birth
- learning to take turns at talking, such as when they bring in items from home for 'Show & Tell'

Our RE topics this term are 'Myself', 'Welcome' and 'Birthday'. We will use the exploration of these themes to practise the new skills taught above. In particular, we will think about:

- family
- names
- appearance
- age
- interests and skills
- difference
- getting along with each other

## ***Skills***

Through these activities, the children will develop the following skills (amongst others):

- being confident to talk to other children when playing, and to ask adults for help
- beginning to accept the needs of others and to take turns and share resources, sometimes with support from others
- listening and responding to simple questions and instructions
- handling objects, including pencils, with increasing control and safety
- beginning to recognise names, numbers and signs in the environment
- reciting numbers in order, counting small numbers of objects, naming some shapes and comparing sizes
- showing an interest in people, animals, plants and objects around them
- showing an interest in construction and developing preferences for forms of artistic expression

## ***How can parents help?***

### ***Children's interests***

Please keep us up to date with your child's current favourite characters and interests. By planning activities around things they are already interested in, we can engage their attention for longer and so more learning can take place.

### ***'Wow!' card***

This is for you to comment on recent developments you have noticed at home – things that made you think 'Wow!' We will display these on a board to celebrate the children's achievements. There are spare cards available on the noticeboard for you to complete as often as you would like.

### ***Library and Communication books***

A library book will be given to your child for you to share with them at home. It will be changed every week. We welcome your comments about your child's enjoyment of the books and you can make these in their Communication book. These can also be used for any kind of message. They will be checked each day but, for urgent messages, it would be better to tell one of us in person at the start of the day.

### ***Show & Tell***

You will be informed via the communication book it is your child's turn to bring something in for **Show and Tell**. Please encourage your child to think about what they want to say about their object. Please, to avoid upset, can the item not be irreplaceable. Thank you.

### ***Birthdays***

Your child can celebrate their birthday by having a non-uniform day. Please do not bring cakes or sweets to share with other children.

### ***Payments***

Please ensure that any money brought to school is in a sealed envelope, marked with your child's name, the amount and the purpose of the payment. If possible, hand the envelope to a member of staff before school, rather than leaving it in a book bag, where it can easily get hidden inside a book.

### ***P.E. and outdoor play***

P.E. lessons will take place weekly, but we do this in normal uniform in the hall. Children do take off their jumpers or cardigans though, so please make sure that all items of clothing are named (including their coats). We encourage independence in dressing, so lots of practice at home would be great. Children also have the opportunity to play outside every day, so you may wish to leave a pair of (named) wellingtons in school for them to use on wet days.

### ***Hair & jewellery***

Long hair should be tied back at all times. Jewellery must not be worn. Small earrings (not hoops) are allowed for those children with pierced ears.

### ***Attendance & Punctuality***

Although attendance at Nursery age is not compulsory, the children do benefit from attending each day. Long absences can upset their routine and they may take a long time to settle again and rebuild friendships. Punctuality is also important, as much of the focused teaching for the session happens in the first half-hour of the session.

***We look forward to working with you and your child. Do come and talk to us about any concerns or questions you might have.***

***Class teacher - Mrs Billington***

***Support staff – Mrs Saint***