

18 April 2017

Telephone: Nottingham (0115) 965 2136

Email: Office: office@woodsfoundation.notts.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

CLASS R INFORMATION LETTER - SUMMER TERM 1 2017



Welcome back after the Easter break! I hope you've had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and were able to get out and about and enjoy the weather.

Starting this week and continuing for the first half of the summer term, we will be focussing on a new topic of 'Houses and Homes'. Below is a list of the areas of learning and what your child will be exploring. It is by no means extensive, but it should provide you with an insight that will support your child's learning. All weekly plans are available to view on the noticeboard in Class R's cloakroom.

Communication, Language and Literacy	Writing sentences, including a capital letter and full stop; expanding vocabulary by looking at new words and their meaning; making posters; writing invitations; writing lists, sentences, captions and phrases using phase 2 and phase 3 tricky words and sounds; using descriptive words; letter formation; role play and talk for writing; Phase 4 phonics.
Mathematics	Counting on and back to 20 from any given number; recognising numbers to 20 in and ordering; counting and recognising numbers beyond 20 and up to 100; understanding that teen numbers are made from 10 and some more and writing addition sentences to show this; counting in groups, beginning with 2's, 5's and 10's; odd and even numbers; representing information as charts; sorting objects into groups and pairs according to set criteria; instructions; comparative language; simple estimating; using mathematical knowledge to solve problems; recognising and naming 2D and 3D shapes and their properties; double numbers to 5 and and halve even numbers to 10; ordering days of the week and measuring time, including reading analogue and digital times to o'clock.
Understanding the World	Different types of houses and their features; observations of materials houses are built from; decoration of homes; investigating materials used inside homes; household appliances now and a long time ago; caring for homes; gardens (specifically seeds and plants and growing them to link with planting our raised bed in the school garden); unusual homes; animal homes; den building.
Expressive Arts and Design	Painting pictures of houses; drawing their own home; role play different domestic settings; mixing colours and exploring different shades of the same colour; making model homes and people; collage with natural materials; exploring tuned and untuned percussion instruments; singing a wide variety of songs.
Physical	Gross motor skills through P.E. activities; fine motor skills (scissor and pencil control); travelling/balancing/climbing using different parts of the body; moving their bodies in different ways; catching and throwing; cooperative and team work through playing outdoor games.
PSED	Talking about past and present experiences; hygiene; understanding their own and others emotions and feelings; care and sensitivity towards others; doing the right thing by making choices; discussing likes/dislikes and forming opinions; caring for homes and the environment around them; homes in other cultures; SEAL's - Relationships.

Phonics

At the end of last term, all the children completed work on their Phase 3 sounds. As mentioned previously, we shall be starting Phase 4 of 'Letters and Sounds' this week. This phase is only four weeks in total. However, there is a lot to learn so we do repeat the phase to ensure a good understanding. There are NO new sounds (phonemes) taught in this phase. The purpose is to consolidate the children's knowledge of graphemes (letters that make up a sound) in reading and spelling. The aim is for the children to be able to represent all the sounds they know with the correct grapheme and be able to blend their sounds (phonemes) to segment and read words. They will also develop their confidence in using these sounds to help them write words, captions and sentences.

You will find a list in your child's reading diary outlining what they will be learning during Phase 4, including the new tricky words. This will enable you to continue to support your child with their understanding of sounds and use them in their reading and writing at home. You will also receive a bookmark with the Phase 4 tricky words printed on them.

By the end of this half term, the expectation is that ALL children should be able to read and begin to write the tricky words from Phase 2 and Phase 3 and also read the tricky words from Phase 4. They should all have received their Phase 3 tricky word certificate and some will have gained their Phase 4 certificate. The Phase 4 words will be sent home as their homework at the end of the first week back. Attached to this newsletter is a list of the Phase 2 and 3 words which you can use as a quick reference for the words.

Please continue to support your child with their reading and sound work at home. It really does help them to improve their confidence in reading and writing. Ideas could be writing lists for shopping or writing short captions to accompany a picture. Do not worry if words are not spelt correctly! It's all about encouraging them to have confidence to use their sounds and be happy to pick up a pencil and enjoy writing - no matter what it looks like!

Book Change

Due to the bank holiday this week, the reading book change will happen on the following days:

Tuesday 18 April 2017 - Circles and Squares
Thursday 20 April 2017 - Circles and Squares

Wednesday 19 April 2017 - Triangles and Rectangles
Friday 21 April 2017 - Triangles and Rectangles

Classroom Activities

At the moment, the role play area is set up as a 'Story Telling Castle'. During this half term, the builders will be moving in and converting it to a Cafe! Whilst we have a few things for this, any items you could donate from home would be welcome. These could be cake tins/trays, aprons, spoons for stirring, pots and pans etc. They might be things you have finished using OR children's toys they no longer need.

We are also looking for games to help the children count (snakes and ladders, 'Frustration' etc.). If you have any you are perhaps thinking of giving away, we would be more than happy to take them from you!

Uniform

Now the warmer weather is here, the children can wear their summer uniform. For girls this is a green and white check summer dress and for boys, trousers or shorts with a green polo shirt.

Water Bottles

Please can you make sure your child always comes to school with a water bottle, so they are able to have a drink whenever they feel thirsty. These bottles will also be placed under the canopy on warm days, so the children can have access to a drink at lunchtime. Please ensure your child's name is on their bottle.

Sun Protection

Now the warmer weather is with us (!), you may feel you would like to protect your child from the effects of the sun. At school, we are not able to apply sun protection to the children in the class. However, you are more than welcome to apply sun protection at home. If you apply one of the longer lasting products just before you leave home in the morning, this should give adequate protection for the whole of the school day.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

We are still collecting these vouchers. Previously, we have used them to purchase equipment for our outdoor learning environments. We would like to do the same this year and also purchase some cooking utensils. Please keep sending them in - the more the better!

Wow Moments

You may remember last half term, I sent home a sheet of 'Wow Moments' for you to fill in about achievements your child makes outside school. Attached to this letter is another sheet so you can continue to record and send them into school, as the opportunity arises. We read every wow moment out to the class and encourage your child to talk about what they have done. They are then stuck in their topic book to record their achievement.

Trips

Just to inform you, we have a trip to Perlethorpe Environmental Education Centre booked for Wednesday 5 July 2017. I will send out more details about this after half term, including the cost.

Now the weather is improving, we are also intended to make more use of the countryside around the school. We are planning to visit Ploughman Wood and build some den's to support our work on Houses and Homes. I will send out details nearer the time.

Class Rewards

As part of the classes 'Thumb's Up' rewards, the children decided they would like to visit the park on the Governor's field. As this is weather dependent, we will let you know via a sign on the class gate, when this will happen.

Thank you for your continued support of Class R. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Asplin
Class R Teacher

<u>Phase 2</u>		
Decodable words		Tricky words
a	had	the
an	back	to
as	and	I
at	get	no
if	big	go
in	him	into
is	his	
it	not	
of	got	
off	up	
on	mum	
can	but	
dad	put	

<u>Phase 3</u>			
Decodable words		Tricky words	
will	see	you	he
that	for	they	she
this	now	all	we
then	down	are	me
them	look	my	be
with	too	her	was

Phase 4

Decodable words	Tricky words	
went	said	were
it's	have	there
from	like	little
children	so	one
just	do	when
help	some	out
	come	what