

21 February 2017

Telephone: Nottingham (0115) 965 2136  
Email: Office: office@woodsfoundation.notts.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

## CLASS R INFORMATION LETTER - SPRING TERM 2 2017

Welcome back after the half term break. I hope you were all able to enjoy the holiday and the weather didn't stop you getting out and about!

This second half of the Spring Term sees us embarking on a new topic of 'Journeys'. This will focus on travelling by various different means - on foot, by road, by rail, by water, by air and in space. 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.

<b>Communication, Language and Literacy</b>	Rhythm, rhyme and alliteration; recall of story and characters; predicting what could happen next in stories; writing their full names <u>including</u> capital letters; verbal communication of ideas; looking at diary writing; writing lists, sentences, captions and phrases using phase 2 and phase 3 tricky words and sounds; using descriptive words; letter formation; completing phase 3 of letters and sounds and revising <u>all</u> sounds and tricky words from both phases so all are known by sight.
<b>Mathematics</b>	Counting on and back to 20 from any given number; recognising, reading, writing and ordering numbers to 20; matching number 1-20 with objects; recognising and learning the names of numbers from 21 onwards; representing information as charts; sorting objects into groups and pairs according to set criteria; positional language; ordinal language; comparative language; adding two groups of numbers by introducing the + and = signs; telling the time to 'o'clock'; patterns; recognising and ordering coins according to their value; using 1p, and 2p coins to buy objects in a play shop; partitioning whole numbers into smaller groups, in particular number bonds to 5.
<b>Understanding the World</b>	Different types of transport; transport past and present; passports; forces (paper clip helicopters, parachutes); floating and sinking; what clothes you need for different journeys/destinations; axles and wheels; making simple maps; looking at how routes are represented on Ordnance Survey maps
<b>Expressive Arts and Design</b>	Printing; collage - using assorted materials, making cards for various occasions; sounds in the environment; recreating environmental sounds; percussion and vocal sounds; adding musical sound effects to stories
<b>Physical</b>	Fine motor skills; travelling and balancing on different parts of the body; catching and throwing; positional language in relation to movement; responding to different movement stimuli; parachute games.
<b>PSED and RE</b>	Classroom and school rules; talking about new experiences; hygiene; understanding their own and others emotions and feelings; doing the right thing by making choices; road safety; water safety; people who work at sea - fishermen, lighthouse keepers; sharing experiences of journeys. 'Good To Be Me' - our SEAL's focus for this half term. R.E. - Special stories from the Bible (Jonah and the Big Fish, Creation story, Noah's Ark, Joseph and His Multi-coloured Coat, Good Samaritan, Easter Story).

### Assessments

For the first couple of weeks back after half term, I will be carrying out informal assessments on the children. This enables me to see where children may need extra support (such as recognising and ordering numbers) and also how I can consolidate and extend their learning, ensuring continued progress.

I shall also be assessing the children on their phonic knowledge of Phase 3 sounds (once we have finished the phase), along with the associated tricky words. You can help your child at home by reading with them every night and practising the tricky words - both from Phase 2 and Phase 3. By continuing to support your child with their reading and sound work at home, it really helps them to improve their



confidence in reading, spelling and writing. I will also be sending home the Phase 3 high frequency word sheet at the end of this week. This works in the same way as the Phase 2 sheet they had in the Autumn term. Just send it back into school when you feel your child knows them by sight. I will listen to them and award them a certificate to show what they can do!

### **P.E.**

At the moment P.E. is indoors, but as the weather improves, we do plan to go outside onto the playground. There is no need to provide your child with extra P.E. clothing (joggers etc.) as we will only go outside if it is warm enough. The children are really improving at getting themselves changed, but practising with buttons and ties at home would help speed up the process! If you have bought your child new clothes and footwear recently, please name them as this really does help us locate the owners!

### **Bug Club**

Please don't forget that you can also read extra books online with your child at the 'Bug Club' website (<http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk>). It offers a range of books to supplement the ones the children receive from school. Your login details are in the front of your child's reading diary. The feedback I have had from parents who already use this facility is that their children really enjoy reading the books and playing the associated games. It also encourages the children to apply their reading skills to other formats - not just a printed book.

### **Forthcoming Events**

On Thursday **2 March 2017**, we will be celebrating World Book Day. There will be special classroom activities based around the BFG by Roald Dahl, for the children to enjoy throughout the day, which will encourage the children to enjoy their reading even more. Children can also bring in their favourite book (please make sure their name is in it), to share with their friends in the class. Your child will receive a free £1 book voucher which can be used in most book shops. Please see [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com) for more details. This link is also on the Class R section of the VLE, along with one to the BFG part of the Roald Dahl website.

### **Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers**

This year we are again collecting the active kids vouchers. In previous years we have been able to purchase lots of outdoor equipment for the children to use under the canopy area such as an obstacle course, balancing trails and scooter boards, which helps to improve their gross and fine motor skills. This year we are hoping to collect enough vouchers to supplement these resources. Please send your vouchers into school with your child. There is also a collection box in the school hall, near the main entrance.

### **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 to Ploughman Wood**

I will be continuing to take the children on trips to Ploughman Wood (weather permitting) during this half term. We will let you know when this will happen, either by letter in your child's book bag or a note on the gate by the classroom.

### **Parents, Pupil and Teacher Meetings**

Last half term, you should have received confirmation of your appointment time for your meeting with me. If you are unsure of your time, please let me know and I will send you a reminder.

Thank you for your continued support of Class R. If you have any questions, you can usually have a quick chat with me at the classroom gate at the beginning or end of school. If this is not possible, then please get in touch, so a mutually convenient time can be arranged.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Asplin  
**Class R Teacher**