



2019
Happy New Year!



Wednesday 23rd January
Maths workshop for all parents . Starts 9.00am

Tuesday 29th January
SEND Parent Support Group meeting 9.15 at Aquarius Community Centre

Tuesday 29th January
Phonics workshop for all parents. Starts 9.00am

Thursday 7th February
Special event day for the whole school and centre. Join us after school for Chinese New Year fun and activities from 3.30pm-5pm.

Tuesday 12th February
Creative session for dads. Come along and join this creative workshop with your child.

Thursday 14th February
Half Term Break for Nursery Class and Term Time only children. Children finish at the end of the day on Thursday 14th and will return to school on Monday 25th February 2019

Friday 15th February
Centre closed to ALL children for staff training.

Safety Announcement



In the interests of keeping our children safe, we ask that all parents and carers **CLOSE THE GATE** when entering and leaving the school. This is to prevent children running onto the road outside.



Parent Survival Course

Recruiting now for a course starting in **March 2019**. Come along and be a part of the **Children and Parents Service Incredible Years programme**. Learn more about parenting tips and strategies to support with your child's development. **Speak to Reception or Children's Centre staff for more information.**



Maths and Phonics workshops



23rd and 29th January
Come along and learn fun ideas for exploring maths and phonics with your child at home and while out and about.

SEND Parent Support Group

29th January 9.15am

This meeting is a support group for parents of children with additional needs. We are a group of parents with children who have additional needs, and we would like to start a regular group that creates space and supports each other. We are in the early stages of forming this group, so we welcome anyone who is interested and we value your suggestions about how the group might work. We will meet at the school at 9.15 so people have time to drop off their children, and then we will move to the **Aquarius Community Centre** just round the corner. If you can't make it but are interested leave a message for **Nuzhat** at reception (Nuzhat is Layaan's mummy and a parent governor).



Chinese New Year



Thursday 7th February 3.30pm-5pm
Join us for a special Chinese New Year themed fun event for all families. Enjoy food, activities, crafts and more. We look forward to seeing you there.



Martenscroft ... Bee Proud



Watch out for our Manchester Bee visiting your child's room over the next few weeks. The bee will bring a suitcase of belongings which the children will talk about in order to develop their language and extend their learning. You will be able to see pictures in the room of children's responses.

welcome

Students

Over the course of the coming term you may notice some new faces in the rooms working with the children. These are students on teaching placements sent to us from local schools, colleges and MMU. We hope you will join us in welcoming them all to Martenscroft.

Blossom Room

Welcome back to all our children and families, we hope you all had a lovely break. This term we will be welcoming some new children to our room and some of our babies will be making the transition to join us in Apple Blossom room. Our theme this term is 'Finding out and exploring'. We have lots of very inquisitive children in Apple Blossom who want to know 'How things work', 'what things do' and 'when things will

happen'. To support this we would like to focus on answering some of these questions and curiosities by working through things and finding things out together.

As well we will continue to follow the children's lead and their interests and plan our activities and next steps in relation to this. The 'All about me' forms that we send home, really help us to get a picture of what your child is interested in at home. We value any information you would like to share about your child and really appreciate you taking the time to do this.

ABOUT ME

Our book of the term will be 'Room on the broom'. We will be sharing the book at group times and resources will be available in the book area for the children to explore and act out the story. We will also be showing the children the animated version of the story on the smart board.

Ole!

After the success of both our Ole club (Spanish) and Alwan (Arabic) will be continuing with these clubs again this term. A small group of children from each room will be joining these groups.

Lots of our children are toilet training at the moment and we only have a small amount of spare clothes, could you please make sure your child has spare clothes in their bag (tops, trousers, vests, underwear, socks). With it now being very cold outside could you please make sure your child is wearing suitable outdoor clothing, coats, hats, boots etc. Could we also ask that these items are clearly labelled so we know who they belong to.

In Cherry Blossom as well as continuing to follow the babies interests we will continue our focus on books and joining in with songs and rhymes. Last term we noticed the babies had started to join in with some of the actions, sounds and words to the songs and would like to continue with this.

We have introduced a new Heuristic play area in Cherry Blossom for the babies to explore a range of interesting and exciting resources. This term the babies will also be exploring a wide range of messy play from pasta to cornflour and much more. Please make sure you provide spare clothes for your children to change into in case they get a little messy.

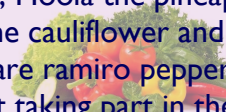
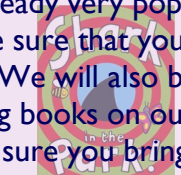
Willow Room

Willow room would like to thank all of the parents and carers for their fantastic support over the last half term. The staff and children really enjoyed all of the activities that we took part in during the build up to Christmas including our Parent's Day and our whole school family event - it was great to have so many of you here!

Our children were total superstars whilst performing their Christmas show, based on our book, Owl Babies, and we loved seeing so many lovely parents and carers in the audience, there to support us.

This half term we will be sharing the text, 'Shark in the Park'. Its already very popular with the children and we're sure that you'll be hearing all about it at home! We will also be continuing to change our reading books on our designated days, please make sure you bring your book bags in with your child's reading book each week and we will get it changed for you.

We will also be taking part in 'Let's Grow' this term which is a wonderful scheme of learning provided by Ben Faulks' (Mr. Bloom's) theatre company, Plunge Bloom. The learning is based around our children being introduced to fruit and vegetable baby characters and their nannies. The characters include, Hoola the pineapple, Oz the courgette, Peep the cauliflower and The Dilly Dallies who are ramiro peppers. We are all very excited about taking part in the activities planned!



Palm Room

Welcome back to the start of a New Year. We would like to wish all the children who have moved into Willow room the very best and would like to thank all the parents for their support and contributions.

This term we welcome new children who will be starting their gradual admission by getting to know their new keyperson and settling into Palm room.

Through our focus group, we continue to follow children's interests, respond to their ideas for developing play activities, and provide structured activities (which can also be playful) to teach specific knowledge and skills. This will enable us to capture a detailed projection of an individual child's unique play, interactions and what they are particularly engaged in. Our theme is around **Moving**.

Movement is a fundamental skill for children and enables them to progress and develop a full range of skills, which include child initiated play and some activities which will be supported by the staff team, for example:

Physical Skills-balance, co-ordination, spatial-awareness, climbing, music and movement, running games as well as enrichment activities like Yoga and Dough disco. Moving also focuses on children's health, well-being, fresh air and exercise. We will provide activities that encourage children to develop their independence. The children will be given lots of opportunities to develop their big arm movements (gross motor skills) through sand and water play, parachute games, and ring games. The children will also be encouraged to develop their fine motor skills through a variety of stimulating activities, for example dough disco, threading, and exploring the natural heuristic resources.

The book of the term is **Where's My Teddy by Jez Alborough**

This is a simple, fun, interactive story and we will provide activities, rhymes, songs and stories using everyday items to develop early language and early numeracy concepts. The children will be learning about size— big and small, sorting and matching. Our older children will be talking and learning about their emotions and feelings.

Our Rhyme Time Challenge started this term with Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed. Please continue to support us by sharing the rhymes at home, you can also add your own observations onto Tapestry.

