

17th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back! We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas. We would like to take this opportunity, to say thank you for all our Christmas gifts, they were very much appreciated.

Our topic this term is "Fairy Tales on the Farm" and as usual we will be exploring this in all seven areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum. On **Thursday 31st January**, we will be visiting **Whirlow Hall Farm in Sheffield**. We will be having a guided tour around the farm, and will be participating in a Little Red Hen, role play practical workshop, led by their teaching staff. You should have already received a letter, and I would appreciate you signing the consent slip. I am also planning a 'Dress up as a Farm Animal Day' for after half term. I will let you know when this will be! Our Class Assembly will be on Monday 1st April at 9.15am, where you can join in the celebration of all our lovely work following our visit.

We will be exploring lots of different fairy tales including Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, The Three Little Pigs and Jack and the Beanstalk. We will be learning about animals that live on the farm, including what they eat and what their babies are called. We will also be thinking about healthy eating, where our food comes from, and will be doing some growing of our own, as the weather gets warmer! If any of you would like to come into school, and share your favourite fairy tale at story time, then we would be delighted to see you! A brief summary of this term's learning objectives is on the back of this letter.

Just a reminder for all that PE is on Monday for now, and after half term we will also have Dance on Friday mornings, with Mrs Wells our dance teacher. Please could all children bring their book bags in every day. **It is still very important that your child reads every day at home to an adult, to develop early Literacy skills.** This will have such a positive impact on their progress at school. Little and often is always the key to reading success! As an incentive, I will be giving the children a sticker every time they read at home. If your child reads at least three times a week, I will give them a raffle ticket, and enter them into a prize draw at the end of the week! There will also be interactive reading books and Maths games, on the Abacus Active Learning Site. Just a quick reminder, that my **Maths Workshop** will be held on **Thursday 24th January at 2.00pm and 6.00 pm**. I hope you can make it, and it is a good refresher even if you have got a child who is already at our school.

It would also be very helpful, as the weather gets colder, if your child brings a hat and a pair of gloves, to keep them warm when we are playing outside.

Can I also ask that you ensure your child brings a nut free, healthy snack to school. It is amazing how young children will try new fruits and vegetables for the first time, when sat with their peer group. We also offer children a free piece of fruit every day, and access to milk and water.

Thank you for your support.

With best wishes

Mrs Walsh, Mrs Kiddy, and Miss Dunkley.