

Long Mead Community Primary Foundation Unit Newsletter



22nd April 2022

Dear Parents and carers

Welcome back to all of you who know us well and a very warm welcome to the new families whose children have joined the Foundation Unit this term. We hope you have had a wonderful Easter and you haven't eaten too much chocolate! This term our topic is 'Recycling' and these are some of the things we will be covering this term:

Communication and Language

We will be sharing stories, encouraging the children to join in with familiar parts. The stories we will be focusing on include: *Oil! Get off my train*, *Tidy*, *the whale who wanted more* and here we are as well as non-fiction texts about recycling and rubbish. We will focus on answering who, what, when, where, why and how questions and the difference between each question type. We will also begin Helicopter storytelling, encouraging the children to make up their own stories and as a class we will be bringing them to life by acting them out.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term in our PSHE lessons we will be focusing on how we and our families are all different. We be thinking about all the children in the class and what great quality they bring to our class. We will continue to recognise and talk about our feelings, understanding how we can help others and understand the importance of sharing and taking turns, this will develop into how to be a good friend. Throughout the term we will be developing the children's ability to resolve problems with some support. For those who are new this term we will be encouraging independence and settling into the nursery and reception.

Physical Development

PE lessons will continue to take place for BOTH nursery and reception on a Monday. Please can you ensure Reception have their PE kits in school every week and can nursery make sure they are wearing sensible shoes (trainers). Over the holidays Mrs Hooper has begun creating an obstacle course area - so the children will have the opportunity to jump, balance and climb during child-initiated times. We will be focusing on developing the children's independence, for example getting their coats on and doing them up, putting shoes and socks on. Every morning we will be doing activities to develop fine motor control and handwriting skills.

Literacy

The children will be enjoying stories, rhymes and books to develop their literacy skills. The children in Reception will be continuing daily phonics sessions where they will be learning more phase 3 digraphs. Phonics will be being taught in the pre-school, they will be looking at different sounds around them, including environmental and instrumental as well as body percussion. Alongside our focus story books we will be acting out stories, ordering key events and having discussions about what will happen next. Reception will begin to label pictures and write simple sentences and creating leaflets linked to our focus stories. Reception reading books will be changed on a Friday. Please keep re-reading the books we send home so that your child can read them fluently. Children will enjoy reading when they feel successful.

Mathematics

We will be continuing to focus on reciting the numbers in order, counting accurately and recognising numerals. Nursery will be focusing on counting accurately to 5 and beyond using 1:1 correspondence and then matching

quantities with the correct numeral. Reception will be focusing on counting forwards and backwards from any number to 20. Towards the end of the term will be looking at patterns in numbers including odd and even numbers. We will also be recapping describing and naming shapes, using shapes to make pictures and patterns and looking for shapes in the environment.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be creating wonderful models using a range of recyclable materials and then applying plaster of paris on top to make it a solid model for the children to then decorate.

In music we will be using percussion instruments and building up a repertoire of familiar songs as well as listening and appraising songs. The children will also be able to access the arts and crafts resources throughout the week so that they are able to create their own models and pictures to share with the class.

Understanding of the World

We will be recognising people in our families and people in our community. Miss Webster will continue taking the forest school groups on little visits in the community. We will be focusing on how to look after our surroundings by throwing our rubbish in the bin or even better to recycle it! We will take part in litter picking around the school grounds and then we will decide if everything we found could have been recycled to be made into something new.

Forest School for **Reception** will be taking place every **Monday** - You should have had a letter if your child is taking part this term. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and bring wellies in a bag.

Early Years Staff

Please note that staff are in school on the following days:

Miss Webster - Monday

Mrs Hooper - Tuesday - Friday

Nicky Wilson, Mrs Mitchell and Lois are in school all week.

Snack Time

School provides snack for all children in nursery and reception; however, we do not know in advance what the fruit will be. If you feel providing a snack for your child would be more appropriate then please make sure it is healthy (fruit, veg, breadsticks and raisins etc) **NO** chocolate or crisp please.

Parents' comments

Over the term, we are encouraging parents to come in and have a look at their children's books to see all the wonderful things your children are doing whilst at school. Reception books will be available to look at on alternate Friday mornings - 8.30-8.45am and Friday afternoons 1.20-1.30pm. The dates will be - **Fri 28th April, Friday 12th May & Friday 26th May.**

Nursery - Please see Nicky for an appropriate time.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to let us know, we are always happy to help.

Thank you for your support.

The Foundation Stage Team