

TERM	Spring 2 2020
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FC NEWSLETTER

We hope you have all had a wonderful half term break – Welcome back!

CHILD INITIATED LEARNING: As always, a significant part of our day is dedicated to child-initiated learning (Play to Learn). Children at this stage in their development learn best through active, self-initiated activities. They learn in the here and now. It is in these moments of curiosity, effort or interest – the ‘teachable’ moment – that the adult makes a difference. The adults are always alert to individual children (observation), always thinking about what it tells us about the child’s thinking (assessment), and always ready to respond by using appropriate strategies at the right moment to support children’s wellbeing and learning (planning for the next moment). There will continue to be three or four Focus Children each week (aligned with the Leaders of the Week). These children are given an additional focus for these 1:1 ‘In the Moment’ teaching opportunities. At the end of the week a record of these learning opportunities will be uploaded to Tapestry alongside the associated photos and videos. ‘Wow’ moments of learning will continue to be recorded on Tapestry for all children alongside this approach. We have been continuing to develop our learning environment to provide a more engaging, challenging and open-ended provision.

PHONICS We will be continuing with our phonics this term to consolidate the children’s recognition of the Set 1 phonemes learnt last term, to develop their blending skills to read (c-a-t is ‘cat’) and their segmenting skills to spell (knowing ‘cat’ is c-a-t). Some groups will soon be moving onto the RWI Set 2 sounds: ay ee igh ow oo ar or air ir ou oy. Word sheets and reading books will continue to be sent home to enable the children to practise this learning with you.

MATHS The children will have a daily maths lesson. The curriculum is split into ‘Number’ and ‘Shape, space and measure’. We will be using Numberblocks to support our mathematical understanding. This term we will be exploring addition to 10, number bonds to 5 and 10, subtraction and measures. There are on-going opportunities for children to further develop these skills during their child-initiated learning (Play to Learn).

HELICOPTER STORIES The children are very enthusiastic about our helicopter stories! In FC we encourage the children to ‘tell’ us their stories. These are scribed by the adult into our special storybook. The children are encouraged to write their names, draw a picture from their story and sometimes they are even encouraged to write some letters and words within their story, but the focus remains on their oral storytelling. The stories are scribed exactly as the children tell them. We will then sit as a class and the children are able to act out their stories alongside other children taking on other roles in their story. This develops a huge variety of skills including communication, literacy and confidence. Photographs of your child’s story will be uploaded to Tapestry for you to be able to read them.

P.E. In P.E. this term the children will be focusing on Ball skills and Target skills. During this Friday with Mrs Chapman the children will explore and develop a range of gross and fine motor skills.

WILD WOOD We enjoyed the opportunity to share our ‘Wild Wood’ work with you all at the outcome. On Thursday afternoons we will continue with our learning in the woodland. Please ensure your children have coats, hats, gloves, wellies and spare socks/tights. These visits will allow for a wealth of learning activities including bug hunting, artwork, construction activities, teamwork, understanding weather and seasons, story inspired work and developing our understanding of the world. We will continue to use the story ‘The Gruffalo’ as a stimulus for our woodland learning.

GENERAL INFORMATION Mrs Wells will be teaching the class on a Monday to Thursday and Mrs Chapman will be teaching on a Friday. On Thursdays we will also have two student teachers undertaking some of their placement work with us.

- As part of the 'Focus Child' approach, we will send home an information sheet for you to contribute to when it is your child's week. These weeks will match with when your child is a Leader of the Week. Please complete and return these to school as requested or photograph it and email it to the office.
- It is amazing to see the updates you post on Tapestry of things your children have done. We would like to encourage all of you to engage with Tapestry in this way. If you would like any further help with how/what to upload then please just come and ask.
- We will begin weekly sessions to address oracy skills through storytelling. This aims to develop the children's self-confidence and their confidence and effectiveness in communicating.
- Please ensure **all** belongings, uniform and PE kit are named clearly as a lot of belongings seem to go missing and we can easily get things back to the rightful owner if they are named.
- Please remember to bring in a named water bottle each day.
- A fruit snack is provided for the children to access freely during their Play to Learn time. Milk and water is also available.
- Please use the reading record books (yellow books) to record the date/book/amount read. Their reading sheets/reading books and the yellow reading record need to be brought into school every day please. This enables us to read 1:1 with the children, and for books/sheets to be updated.
- Ollie the Owl is our class owl who likes to visit children as a reward. Ollie will come home in a bag with a book for your child to record the visit (drawings, photos, writing – your child's mark making and adult scribing as appropriate etc). Any photos you take can be uploaded to Tapestry or emailed to the school office for us to print them for you.
- We will continue phasing out the indoor/outdoor shoe arrangement. This will happen from the summer term onwards. However, in the meantime if your child grows out of their indoor or outdoor shoes then just ensure they have one pair of school shoes they can wear in and out. If they also have wellies then these will be used when it is wet and muddy outside. Any questions about this then please just ask.
- The children should continue to be dropped off at our class gate from 8.40.
- Our class outcome will be on Thursday 2nd April at 2.15pm.
- Thursday 5th March is World Book Day and we invite all the children to come in dressed up as their favourite book character. They are also welcome to bring the associated book to share with the class.
- You did an amazing job with our class cake stall, it has enabled us to purchase further resources to continue our development of the learning environment. Thank you so much!

TIMETABLE OVERVIEW

	Morning	Afternoon
MON Mrs Wells	Phonics Child Initiated Learning Leader of the Week Maths	Dough Disco Child Initiated Learning Assembly Story
TUES Mrs Wells	Phonics Child Initiated Learning 'Oracy' project Maths	Dance/Yoga Leader of the Week Child Initiated Learning Helicopter Story Performances Do you know?
WED Mrs Wells	Phonics Child Initiated Learning Leader of the Week Maths	Dough Disco Circle Time Child Initiated Learning Assembly Story
THURS Mrs Wells	Phonics Child Initiated Learning Maths	Dance/Yoga Leader of the Week Wild Wood Helicopter Story Performances Story

FRI Mrs Chapman	Phonics P.E. Child Initiated Learning	Leader of the Week Story Celebration Assembly Child Initiated Learning
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