

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break.

Child Initiated Learning (Play): A significant part of our day is dedicated to child-initiated learning (Play). It is in 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 be three Focus Children each 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 all these learning opportunities will be uploaded to Tapestry alongside the associated photos and videos. ‘Wow’ moments of learning throughout the week for all children will be recorded on Tapestry alongside this approach.

Phonics & Reading We will continue through the Read Write Inc scheme for phonics teaching. This term we will be consolidating our recognition of all the Set 1 sounds and beginning the Set 2 sounds (ay ee igh ow oo oo ar or ir air ou oy). The children will be developing their reading skills (blending the sounds together to read the word) and their writing (segmenting the sounds in a word). We will continue to develop our recognition by sight of the ‘red words’. The Oxford Owl website provides resources for parents to support your own understanding of phonics and also ideas on how to support your child <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/> It is very important to continue reading at home regularly and ensuring their books and reading records are brought into school every day.

Maths We follow the White Rose Maths scheme. The children will continue to have a daily maths lesson. We will be using Numberblocks to support our mathematical understanding. This term we will be focusing on deepening our understanding of numbers to 20 and beyond. We will develop our understanding and confidence in adding and taking away using ‘First, then, now’. The children’s recall of number bonds to 10 and the compositions of other numbers to 10 will develop in fluency.

Helicopter Stories We will continue to scribe their stories into our book. 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.

Message Centre This approach has been developed to sprinkle joy, excitement and a love of messaging into their play. This begins with secret symbols then moves to letters and words and the children hide and find these messages around our classroom and in their play. It aims to give children the confidence to have a go at mark-making/writing; it allows them to be creative and use their imagination and discover real purposes to writing. We have a message centre area in the classroom. Perhaps your child will begin hiding secret messages at home too! This term we will further develop our messaging to include more words and sentences. We link this play to ‘Adventure Island’ where the Minpins, Snuff the Cloudling and Grumpa live. I wonder who else we’ll meet?

Drawing Club These sessions explore the magic of stories through drawings. It aims to develop language skills, vocabulary, mark-making, mathematics and their imaginative skills. The stories we will be using are The Three Billy Goats Gruff, What’s in the witch’s kitchen? Jack and the Beanstalk, We’re Going on a Bear Hunt & Little Red Hen.

RE and PSHE In RE we will be exploring the idea of “What can we learn from stories?” We will explore fables alongside special stories from different religions. We will develop our mindfulness strategies through our PSHE and our unit this term will be “Relationships”. This will explore friendships, how to treat others, how to help themselves and others when they feel upset and know what makes a good relationship.

Swimming Our focus is on developing the children’s water confidence. We will develop an understanding of pool safety and use of the woggles. We will focus on developing the children’s confidence in putting their faces into the water and exploring our kicking techniques. The children need to bring a named bag with a named swim suit/shorts, named towel and a named hat. They are expected to change and dry themselves

independently. Please practise at home if you need to!

Woodlands & Nature Study Once a week we will explore our on-site woodland. We aim to develop an enjoyment and curiosity of nature. This term our focus will be on 'Spring' and 'Summer'. We will explore beans, butterflies, grass, clouds and wind. We will also have caterpillars in class so we can watch their transformation into butterflies.

Dough Disco, Cosmic Yoga and Just Dance We have sessions using one of these approaches several times a week. These aim to develop both gross and fine motor skills.

Bright Ideas Time This is a whole school science initiative which we have adapted in FC. Every week we will explore 'Big questions' or discuss 'Odd one out'. These questions have visual prompts and allow the children to share their own ideas and thinking where there are no 'right' answers.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- We will continue our 'Focus Child' approach. We will send home an information sheet for you to contribute to when it will be your child's week. Please complete and return these to school as requested.
- **Name Everything!** There has been a huge increase in unnamed items and this makes it very difficult for us to get things back to their owner. If you do not have access to labels, stickers or a sharpie pen then please ask one of the FC staff and we will very happily write your child's name in for you.
- Please remember to bring in a named water bottle each day, especially with the warmer weather approaching.
- Please apply sun cream in the morning of the days it is needed, you will then need to provide a named bottle/spray/roll on of sun cream for your child to reapply before lunchtime. The children should also have a named sun hat.
- On Fridays your child should wear normal uniform to school and then bring a named bag containing their swimming costume, towel and hat – all named. *Please do not put sun cream on your child on a Friday before swimming.*
- A fruit snack is provided for the children to access freely during the morning. Milk is also available via the Cool Milk scheme.
- Ensure there is a change of clothes in their bags.
- Remember to read regularly at home and ensure their reading book and reading record are in their school bag **every day**.