

**Foundation Stage Newsletter**  
**Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup> half 2017**

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**Traditional Tales/Stories**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We are excited to announce our new topic will be based around Traditional Tales. The children will be exploring stories such as the *Gingerbread Man*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *Red Riding Hood* and *Jack and the Beanstalk*. This newsletter is a general outline of some of the things your children will be learning about this half term.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional development**

In **RE** our learning will be based around incarnation. Children will be learning about how Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem. Christians celebrate Jesus' birth, and Advent for Christians is a time for getting ready for Jesus' coming.

In **PSHE** the children will be involved in a circle time session each week. This half term our topic will be based around "Getting on and falling out". Children will be introduced to the issues of co-operating with others and working in a group. They will have the opportunity to develop and practise the social skills of sharing and taking turns. Alongside this we will be talking about staying safe at home and when out and about.

### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

At the start of each week we will be reading a story to the children which will be used to base their learning and activities on throughout that week. The theme of our books will be traditional and fairy tales.

They will focus on

- Listening to stories in small groups.
- Joining in with repeated refrains.
- Sometimes giving meaning to marks as they draw or write.

Reception children will also have a daily phonics session to learn letters and sounds and begin to sound out simple words.

We would like to invite all parents into school on a Friday morning between 8.50 and 9.10 to share a book with their child. This is also an opportunity to take a book home to read for the week. Reception children will change their reading books daily and are encouraged to read to a parent/carer 5 times a week.

### **Mathematics**

- The children will continue to take part in daily focused maths activity.  
**Nursery children** will focus on matching numeral to quantities, separating a group of three or four objects and begin to recognise the total is the same and show an interest in shapes in the environment.

- **Reception children**- begin to use vocabulary of addition and subtraction, records using marks and continue to develop their ability to write numbers correctly.

### **Understanding of the World**

- The children will be involved in a range of activities based around the stories they hear. They will be encouraged to talk about people who are familiar to them, show care and concern for the environment, talk about how things work and learn how to operate simple equipment.
- They will also be using I pads and digital cameras to support their learning. In computing the theme is "Finding out". The children will be using various technologies and physical onscreen resources to investigate the world around them.

### **Physical development**

Every morning the children will take part in busy fingers, developing their fine motor skills. This will include activities such as threading, snipping and drawing lines and circles.

- **Reception children** will be working on games skills this half term. This will include negotiating space when playing racing and chasing games and adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles. They will also be working on forming letters correctly.
- **Nursery children** will also be developing their ability to run skilfully and negotiate space. We will also be developing their abilities to hold pens and pencils with increasing control.

### **Expressive arts and design**

The children will have the opportunity to engage in role play based on the traditional tales we read. They will develop their ability to introduce a story line in their play and work co-operatively with others. We will also be using junk modelling to build our own beds for the three bears and design and make our own sandwiches for Red Riding Hood to take when visiting Grandma. In music the children will continue to build up their repertoire of songs and develop their ability to tap out simple rhythms.

Once again please don't hesitate to come and see us if you want to know more, or have any questions to ask us.

Many thanks

Naomi Gould, Mary Weston and Sally Chicken