

NEWSLETTER 10: 11th February 2022

Happy Half Term!

It feels like this half term has passed in a blur-probably one of the shortest on record! It may be Valentine's Day next week, but I believe our children need to know they are cared for, cherished and loved all year round. If we model this for them, they are more likely to replicate this in their behaviour, demonstrating kindness to one another, the adults around them, and plants and animals. This is why caring is a part of our curriculum.



I hope you and your families enjoy half term next week when school will be closed.

School reopens on Monday 21st February. We look forward to seeing you then and hearing about your half term adventures!

Mrs Macdonald

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday there was a focus on keeping safe online. In Nursery children were taught that if they discover anything online that makes them scared they must tell an adult straight away. Children are accessing devices from such young ages now. Please ensure your child is protected when accessing online devices by:

- Supervising your child whilst online
- Limiting the time they access devices
- Setting parental controls and Safe Search
- Visiting trusted sights such as CBeebies and You Tube Kids
- Reinforcing the message that if they see anything online that makes them feel worried or scared they must tell an adult



The children in Nursery watched this video:

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=childrens+e+safety+video&view=detail&mid=72FE6D2C20219C51906772FE6D2C20219C519067&FORM=VIRE>

Lots of tips are available here:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/keeping-your-under-five-safe-online/>

Safeguarding note: Mobiles phones must not be used whilst in the school grounds!

Talk, talk, talk!

Our 5 ways to Wow! curriculum includes the aim for children to converse, enabling them to communicate confidently about their passions, needs and interests, and to develop a varied vocabulary. The practitioners in school sensitively tune into your child's level of language and develop their speaking and listening by:



- Having conversations at snack time
- Providing a commentary as children play ie You're pushing the truck...now it stops. Push...push...stop.
- Using clear instructions such as Now snack, Next singing
- Reading stories and singing rhymes
- Introducing new vocabulary-once the child knows flower, specifying the type of flower ie poppy, daisy, daffodil, tulip or dog-dalmation, retriever, whippet etc

The development of speech and language and the important role you can play in this is succinctly explained in this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jt7y1IM2jOM>

We have also added the Makaton Signs we are using at school to Tapestry. Saying AND signing supports children' to understand these words. Please do take a look, and practice these signs over half term!

Medical Information

If your child has a medical need, such as asthma, or a severe allergy, you should have received a copy of the paperwork we hold for them. You need to sign to say that the information is relevant or make relevant changes. Please ensure this is up to date, and returned to us by 23rd February.

Childcare Survey

Hertfordshire County Council is required to produce an annual childcare sufficiency report that is made available to the public. The report enables the council to understand the current market position across Hertfordshire for childcare. The results of this survey will helps to plan for sufficient childcare places across Hertfordshire for working families.

They have requested we share this link in order for you to register your feedback. Thank you in advance for completing the survey.

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/UDHBRQ/>

